

# Developmental Milestones and Competency Ratings

**By 3 months old**

*Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.*

| Competency Domain        | Milestone   | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|--------------------------|---|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Emotional</b>         | Briefly calms self (e.g., sucks on hand).   |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Exhibits interest in the outside world when in an alert state (e.g., gazes at objects, people, or light; localizes to sound; adjusts breathing in response to sound of voices). |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Is comforted by proximity to caregiver and soothing motion.   |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Remains in a calm, focused state for at least 2 minutes.  |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Makes smooth state transitions (e.g., sleep to drowsy to awake).  |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Expresses contentment or discomfort.  |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Social-Relational</b> | Smiles responsively (i.e., social smile).   |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Looks at caregiver's face.  |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Coos responsively.  |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Localizes to familiar voices and sounds.  |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Shows interest in facial expressions.   |                  |          |                          |

**By 3 months old***Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.*

| Competency Domain                    | Milestone  | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|--------------------------------------|--|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Language-Social Communication</b> | Follows sounds (e.g., turning head in response to sound).                |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Coos and gurgles.  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Imitates simple facial expressions (e.g., smiling, sticking tongue out). |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Cognitive</b>                     | Follows people and objects with eyes.                                    |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Loses interest or protests if activity does not change.                  |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Movement and Physical</b>         | Pushes up trunk when lying on stomach.                                   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Holds head up without support.   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Hands are often open (i.e., not in fists).                               |                  |          |                          |

**By 6 months old***Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.*

| Competency Domain                    | Milestone   | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|--------------------------------------|---|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Emotional</b>                     | Responds to affection with smiling, cooing, or settling.  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Demonstrates a range of emotions that includes happiness, excitement, sadness, fear, distress, disgust, anger, joy, interest, and surprise. |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Expresses anger, frustration, or protest with distinct cries and facial expressions.  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Recovers from distress when comforted by caregiver.   |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Social-Relational</b>             | Imitates some movements and facial expressions (e.g., smiling or frowning).   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Engages in socially reciprocal interactions (e.g., playing simple back-and-forth games).  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Seeks social engagement with vocalizations, emotional expressions, or physical contact.   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Watches faces closely.  |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Language-Social Communication</b> | Copies sounds.  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Babbles with <i>p</i> , <i>b</i> , and <i>m</i> sounds.   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Vocalizes excitement and displeasure (e.g., laughs and coos).   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Produces distinct cries to show hunger, pain, or being tired.   |                  |          |                          |

**By 6 months old***Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.*

| Competency Domain            | Milestone  | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|------------------------------|--|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Cognitive</b>             | Tracks moving objects with eyes from side to side.   |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Experiments with cause and effect (e.g., bangs spoon on table).  |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Smiles and vocalizes in response to own face in mirror image.  |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Recognizes familiar people and things at a distance.   |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Demonstrates anticipation of certain routine activities (e.g., shows excitement in anticipation of being fed). |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Movement and Physical</b> | Swats at dangling objects.   |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Pushes down on legs when feet are on a hard surface.   |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Sits without support.  |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Rolls over from tummy to back.   |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Holds and shakes an object.  |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Bangs two objects together.  |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Brings hands to midline.   |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Reaches for object with one hand.  |                  |          |                          |

**By 9 months old**

*Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.*

| Competency Domain        | Milestone   | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|--------------------------|---|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Emotional</b>         | Has strategies for self-soothing.   |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Demonstrates preference for caregivers.   |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Intentionally communicates feelings to others.  |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Social-Relational</b> | Distinguishes between familiar and unfamiliar voices.                                 |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Shows some stranger wariness.   |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Protests separation from caregiver.   |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Enjoys extended play with others, especially caregivers.                              |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Engages in back-and-forth, two-way communication using vocalizations and eye contact. |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Mimics other's simple gestures.   |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Follows other's gaze and pointing.  |                  |          |                          |

**By 9 months old***Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.*

| Competency Domain                    | Milestone  | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|--------------------------------------|--|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Language-Social Communication</b> | Responds to sounds by making sounds or moving body.                                    |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Imitates speech sounds when prompted   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Begins to use noncrying sounds (speech sounds) to get and keep attention               |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | String vowels together when babbling ( <i>ah, eh, oh</i> ).                            |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Makes sounds to show joy or displeasure  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Begins to use gestures to communicate wants and needs (e.g., reaches to be picked up). |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Follows some routine commands when paired with gestures                                |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Shows understanding of commonly used words.  |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Cognitive</b>                     | Mouths or bangs objects.   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Tries to get objects that are out of reach.  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Looks for things he or she sees others hide (e.g., toy under blanket).                 |                  |          |                          |

**By 9 months old***Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.*

| Competency Domain            | Milestone   | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|------------------------------|---|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Movement and Physical</b> | Rolls over in both directions (front to back, back to front).             |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Brings self to sitting position independently.                            |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Stands with support.  |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Moves independently from one place to another (e.g., crawling, scooting). |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Turns pages of a book.  |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Reaches for and grasps objects.   |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Passes objects from one hand to the other.                                |                  |          |                          |

**By 12 months old***Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.*

| Competency Domain                    | Milestone   | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|--------------------------------------|---|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Emotional</b>                     | Looks to caregiver for information about new situations and environments.   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Looks to caregiver to share emotional experiences.  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Responds to other people's emotions (e.g., displays sober, serious face in response to sadness in parent; smiles when parent laughs). |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Uses gestures to communicate feelings (e.g., clapping when excited).  |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Social-Relational</b>             | Offers object to initiate interaction (e.g., hands caregiver a book to hear a story).   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Plays interactive games (e.g., "peek-a-boo" and "pat-a-cake").  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Looks at familiar people when they are named.   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Gives object to seek help (e.g., hands shoe to parent).   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Extends arm or leg to assist with dressing.   |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Language-Social Communication</b> | Understands "no."   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Responds to own name.   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Looks in response to "where" questions (e.g., "Where is the doggie?").  |                  |          |                          |



**By 12 months old**

Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.

| Competency Domain  | Milestone   | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|--|---|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Language-Social Communication</b><br><i>(continued)</i> | Makes different consonant sounds such as <i>mamamam</i> and <i>babababa</i> .             |                  |          |                          |
|  | Points to nearby objects.   |                  |          |                          |
|  | Imitates conventional gestures (e.g., waving bye-bye, clapping).                          |                  |          |                          |
|  | Responds to simple directives accompanied by gestures such as “come here.”                |                  |          |                          |
|  | Has a few words (e.g., “mama,” “dada,” “hi,” “bye-bye,” or “dog”).                        |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Cognitive</b>   | Watches the path of something as it falls.  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Has favorite objects (e.g., toys, blanket).   |                  |          |                          |
|  | Explores objects and how they work in multiple ways (e.g., mouthing, touching, dropping). |                  |          |                          |
|  | Fills and dumps containers.   |                  |          |                          |
|  | Plays with two objects at the same time.  |                  |          |                          |

**By 12 months old***Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.*

| Competency Domain            | Milestone   | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|------------------------------|---|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Movement and Physical</b> | Takes a few steps without holding on.                             |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Walks holding onto furniture (i.e., cruises).                     |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Moves from sitting to standing position.                          |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Stands alone.   |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Picks up things between thumb and index finger (e.g., cereal).    |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Crawls forward on belly, pulling with arms and pushing with legs. |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Turns around while crawling.                                      |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Crawls while holding an object.                                   |                  |          |                          |

**By 15 months old***Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.*

| Competency Domain                    | Milestone   | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|--------------------------------------|---|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Emotional</b>                     | Shows affection with kisses (without pursed lips).  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Demonstrates cautious or fearful behavior such as clinging to or hiding behind caregiver. |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Social-Relational</b>             | Seeks and enjoys attention from others, especially caregivers.                            |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Engages in parallel play with peers.  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Presents a book or toy when he or she wants to hear a story or to play.                   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Repeats sounds or actions to get attention.   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Enjoys looking at picture books with caregiver.   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Engages in parallel play with peers.  |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Language-Social Communication</b> | Uses simple gestures such as shaking head “no” or waving “bye-bye.”                       |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Responds to the gestures of others.   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Enjoys looking at picture books with caregivers.  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Makes sounds with changes in tone (sounds more like speech).                              |                  |          |                          |

**By 15 months old**

Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.

| Competency Domain  | Milestone   | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|--|---|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Language-Social Communication</b><br><i>(continued)</i> | Uses complex communication skills integrating gestures, vocalizations, and eye contact (e.g., looking to parent while taking his or her hand to bring him or her to a desired toy). |                  |          |                          |
|  | Identifies correct picture or object when it is named.  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Follows simple requests (e.g., “pick up the toy”; “roll the ball”).   |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Cognitive</b>   | Imitates complex gestures (e.g., signing).  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Initiates joint attention (e.g., points to show others something interesting or to get others’ attention).  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Finds hidden objects easily.  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Uses objects for their intended purpose (e.g., drinks from a cup, smooths hair with brush).   |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Movement and Physical</b>                               | Explores physical environment.  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Pushes objects (e.g., boxes, toy trucks, push toys).  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Walks independently.  |                  |          |                          |

**By 18 months old***Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.*

| Competency Domain                    | Milestone  | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|--------------------------------------|--|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Emotional</b>                     | Demonstrates self-comforting strategies.   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Shares humor with peers or adults (e.g., laughs at and makes funny faces or nonsense rhymes).        |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Social-Relational</b>             | Likes to hand things to others during play.  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Engages in reciprocal displays of affection (e.g., hugs or kisses with a pucker).                    |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Asserts autonomy (e.g., “me do”).  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Reacts with concern when someone appears hurt.   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Leaves caregiver’s side to explore nearby objects or setting.  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Engages in teasing behavior such as looking at parent and caregiver and doing something “forbidden.” |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Language-Social Communication</b> | Uses at least 20 words or word approximations such as <i>baba</i> for ball.                          |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Shows consistent increases in vocabulary each month.   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Says and shakes head “no.”   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Can follow one-step verbal commands without any gestures (e.g., sits when you say “sit down”).       |                  |          |                          |

**By 18 months old***Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.*

| Competency Domain  | Milestone   | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|--|---|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Language-Social Communication</b><br><i>(continued)</i> | When pointing, looks back to caregiver to confirm joint attention.  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Combines words, gestures, and eye contact to communicate feelings and requests.   |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Cognitive</b>   | Enacts play sequences with objects according to their intended use (e.g., pushing a toy dump truck and emptying its cargo). |                  |          |                          |
|  | Shows interest in a doll or stuffed animal by giving a hug.   |                  |          |                          |
|  | Points to at least one body part.   |                  |          |                          |
|  | Points to self when asked.  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Plays simple pretend games (e.g., feeding a doll).  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Scribbles with crayon, marker, and so forth.  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Turns pages of book.  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Recognizes self in mirror.  |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Movement and Physical</b>                               | Stacks two blocks.  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Walks up steps with help.   |                  |          |                          |

**By 18 months old***Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.*

| Competency Domain                                  | Milestone  | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|--|--|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Movement and Physical</b><br><i>(continued)</i> | Pulls toys while walking.  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Helps undress him- or herself (e.g., pulls off hat, socks, mittens). |                  |          |                          |
|  | Eats with a spoon.   |                  |          |                          |
|  | Drinks from open cup.  |                  |          |                          |

**By 24 months old***Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.*

| Competency Domain                    | Milestone  | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|--------------------------------------|--|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Emotional</b>                     | Exhibits embarrassment and pride.  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Exhibits shame and guilt.  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Exhibits empathy (e.g., offers comfort when someone is hurt).  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Attempts to exert independence frequently.   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Names or understands words for basic emotions.   |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Social-Relational</b>             | Imitates others' complex actions, especially adults and older children (e.g., putting plates on the table, posture, gestures). |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Enjoys being with other young children.  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Takes pride and pleasure in independent accomplishments.   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Primarily plays in proximity to other young children but notices and imitates other young children's play more frequently.     |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Responds to being corrected or praised.  |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Language-Social Communication</b> | Enjoys being read to.  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Names actions.   |                  |          |                          |



**By 24 months old***Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.*

| Competency Domain  | Milestone   | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|--|---|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Language-Social Communication</b><br><i>(continued)</i> | Knows names of familiar people and many body parts.   |                  |          |                          |
|  | Uses two words together (e.g., “more cookie”; “Dada, bye-bye?”).  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Repeats words overheard in conversation.  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Names objects in picture books (e.g., cat, bird, ball, or dog).   |                  |          |                          |
|  | Imitates animal sounds such as “meow,” “woof,” “baa,” and “moo.”  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Uses some self-referential pronouns such as “mine.”   |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Cognitive</b>   | Finds things even when hidden under two or three covers or when hidden in one place and moved to a second place (i.e., does not give up when the hidden object is not in the first location). |                  |          |                          |
|  | Begins to sort shapes and colors.   |                  |          |                          |
|  | Completes sentences and rhymes from familiar books, stories, or songs.  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Plays simple make-believe games (e.g., pretend meal).   |                  |          |                          |
|  | Builds towers of four or more blocks.   |                  |          |                          |
|  | Follows two-step instructions (e.g., “Pick up your shoes and put them in the closet”).  |                  |          |                          |

**By 24 months old***Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.*

| Competency Domain            | Milestone   | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|------------------------------|---|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Movement and Physical</b> | Participates in dressing (e.g., putting arms into sleeves, pulling pants up or down, putting on hat). |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Stands on tiptoes.  |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Kicks a ball.   |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Runs.   |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Climbs onto and down from furniture without help.   |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Walks up and down stairs holding on.  |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Draws lines.  |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Drinks using a straw.   |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Opens cabinets, drawers, and boxes.   |                  |          |                          |

**By 36 months old***Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.*

| Competency Domain        | Milestone  | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Emotional</b>         | Expresses full range of emotions, including pride, shame, guilt, and empathy.  |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Expresses distress or anger with words.  |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Shows pride in new learning and new experiences.   |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Expresses affection openly and verbally.   |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Expresses feelings through pretend play and drama.   |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Social-Relational</b> | Shows affection to peers without prompting.  |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Shares without prompts.  |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Can wait turn in playing games.  |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Shows concern for crying peer by taking action.  |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Engages in associative play with peers (i.e., infants/young children participate in similar activities without formal organization but with some interaction). |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Shares accomplishments with others.  |                  |          |                          |
|                          | Helps with simple household tasks.   |                  |          |                          |

**By 36 months old***Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.*

| Competency Domain                    | Milestone   | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|--------------------------------------|---|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Language-Social Communication</b> | Clearly uses <i>k, g, f, t, d,</i> and <i>n</i> sounds.                       |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Builds logical bridges between ideas using words such as “but” and “because.” |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Asks questions using words such as “why?” or “how?”                           |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Says first name when asked.   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Names most familiar objects.  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Understands words such as “in,” “on,” and “under.”                            |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Knows own identifying information (e.g., name, age, gender).                  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Identifies peers by name.   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Uses some plurals (e.g., “cars,” “dogs,” “cats”).                             |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Uses labels “mine,” “I,” “you,” “me,” “their,” “his,” or “hers” accurately.   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Speaks well enough for familiar listeners to understand most of the time.     |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Carries on a conversation using two or three sentences.                       |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Uses sentences that are at least three to four words.                         |                  |          |                          |

**By 36 months old**

*Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.*

| Competency Domain            | Milestone  | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|------------------------------|--|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Cognitive</b>             | Labels some colors correctly.  |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Plays thematic make-believe with objects, animals, and people.                               |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Answers simple “why” questions (e.g., “Why do we need a coat when it’s cold outside?”).      |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Shows awareness of skill limitations.  |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Understands “bigger” and “smaller.”  |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Understands concept of “two.”  |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Enacts complex behavioral routines observed in daily life of caregivers, siblings, or peers. |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Solves simple problems (e.g., obtains a desired object by opening a container).              |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Attends to a story for 5 minutes.  |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Plays independently for 5 minutes.   |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Movement and Physical</b> | Manipulates some buttons, levers, and moving parts.  |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Climbs on high and low structures.   |                  |          |                          |
|                              | Runs fluidly.  |                  |          |                          |

**By 36 months old***Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.*

| Competency Domain                                  | Milestone                                  | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|--|--|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Movement and Physical</b><br><i>(continued)</i> | Copies a circle.                           |                  |          |                          |
|  | Builds tower of more than six blocks.      |                  |          |                          |
|  | Pedals a tricycle (three-wheel bicycle).   |                  |          |                          |
|  | Catches and kicks big ball.                |                  |          |                          |
|  | Walks up and down steps, alternating feet. |                  |          |                          |

**By 48 months old***Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.*

| Competency Domain                    | Milestone   | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|--------------------------------------|---|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Emotional</b>                     | Expresses distress or anger with words.   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Conveys emotional experiences in pretend play.  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Complies with basic cultural rules for emotional expression.                                    |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Social-Relational</b>             | Pretends to play “Mom” and “Dad” (or other relevant caregivers).                                |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Asks about or talks about parent and caregiver when separated (i.e., holds the other in mind).  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Engages in cooperative play with other infants/young children.                                  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Has a preferred friend.   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Expresses interests, likes, and dislikes.   |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Language-Social Communication</b> | Relates experiences from school or outside home.  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Describes events or things using four or more sentences at a time.                              |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Identifies rhyming words such as “cat-hat” or “ping-ring.”                                      |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Recognizes and understands basic rules of grammar (e.g., plurals, tense).                       |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Sings a song or says a poem from memory (e.g., “Itsy Bitsy Spider” or the “Wheels on the Bus”). |                  |          |                          |

**By 48 months old**

*Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.*

| Competency Domain  | Milestone   | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|--|---|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Language-Social Communication</b><br><i>(continued)</i> | Tells stories.  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Says first and last name when asked.  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Uses words or adjectives to describe or talk about him- or herself.               |                  |          |                          |
|  | Understands, uses, and responds to questions of “how” or “when.”                  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Uses words that talk about time.  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Speech is generally understood by nonfamily members.                              |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Cognitive</b>   | Names several colors and some numbers.  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Counts to five.   |                  |          |                          |
|  | Has rudimentary understanding of time.  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Shares past experiences.  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Remembers parts of a story.   |                  |          |                          |
|  | Engages in make-believe play with capacity to build and elaborate on play themes. |                  |          |                          |
|  | Connects actions and emotions.  |                  |          |                          |



**By 48 months old**

Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.

| Competency Domain                      | Milestone   | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|--|---|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Cognitive</b><br><i>(continued)</i> | Responds to questions that require understanding the idea of “same” and “different.”                                |                  |          |                          |
|  | Draws a person with two to four body parts.   |                  |          |                          |
|  | Understands that actions can influence others’ emotions (e.g., tries to make others laugh by telling simple jokes). |                  |          |                          |
|  | Waits for turn in simple games.   |                  |          |                          |
|  | Elaborates on thematic make-believe play.   |                  |          |                          |
|  | Plays board or card games with simple rules.  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Describes what is going to happen next in a book.   |                  |          |                          |
|  | Talks about right and wrong.  |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Movement and Physical</b>           | Skips, hops, and stands on one foot for up to 2 seconds.  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Catches a large, bounced ball most of the time.   |                  |          |                          |
|  | Copies “plus” sign.   |                  |          |                          |
|  | Uses toilet during the day with few accidents.  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Pours from one container to another, cuts with supervision, and mashes own food.                                    |                  |          |                          |

**By 60 months old***Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.*

| Competency Domain                    | Milestone   | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|--------------------------------------|---|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Emotional</b>                     | Expresses two or more emotions at the same time.  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Shows awareness of and interest in personal success.  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Shows increased confidence associated with greater independence and autonomy.   |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Social-Relational</b>             | Wants to please friends.  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Emulates role models, real or imaginary.  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Values rules in social interactions.  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Participates in group activities that require assuming roles (e.g., Follow the Leader).   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Modulates or modifies voice correctly depending on situation or listener (e.g., outside voice, to adult, other infant/young child, or younger child). |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Language-Social Communication</b> | Makes all speech sounds. May make mistakes on more difficult sounds such as <i>ch, sh, th, l, v,</i> and <i>z</i> (linguistically variable).          |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Understands words denoting order such as “first,” “second,” “third,” “next,” and “last.”  |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Uses “today,” “yesterday,” “tomorrow,” “last week,” and “before” correctly.   |                  |          |                          |
|                                      | Discriminates rhyming and nonrhyming words.   |                  |          |                          |

**By 60 months old**

Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.

| Competency Domain  | Milestone   | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|--|---|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Language-Social Communication</b><br><i>(continued)</i> | Recognizes words with same beginning sound.   |                  |          |                          |
|  | Identifies individual sounds within words (e.g., “dog”: d–o–g).                           |                  |          |                          |
|  | Tells a simple story using full sentences.  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Uses future tense (e.g., “Grandma will be here”).   |                  |          |                          |
|  | Says full name and address.   |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Cognitive</b>   | Counts 10 or more things.   |                  |          |                          |
|  | Tells stories with beginning, middle, and conclusion.                                     |                  |          |                          |
|  | Draws a person with at least six body parts.  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Acknowledges own mistakes or misbehaviors and can apologize.                              |                  |          |                          |
|  | Distinguishes fantasy from reality most of the time.                                      |                  |          |                          |
|  | Names four colors correctly.  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Follows rules in simple games.  |                  |          |                          |
|  | Knows function of everyday household objects (e.g., money, cooking utensils, appliances). |                  |          |                          |

**By 60 months old**

*Rating key: 1 = Fully present; 2 = Inconsistently present or emerging; 3 = Absent.*

| Competency Domain                      | Milestone   | Milestone Rating | Comments | Competency Domain Rating |
|--|---|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <b>Cognitive</b><br><i>(continued)</i> | Attends to group activity for 15 minutes (e.g., circle time, storytelling). |                  |          |                          |
| <b>Movement and Physical</b>           | Stands on one foot for 10 seconds or longer.                                |                  |          |                          |
|  | Copies a triangle and other geometric shapes.                               |                  |          |                          |
|  | Copies some letters or numbers.   |                  |          |                          |
|  | Hops on one foot.   |                  |          |                          |
|  | Uses utensils to eat.   |                  |          |                          |
|  | Uses the toilet independently (wipes, flushes, and washes hands).           |                  |          |                          |
|  | Swings independently on a swing.  |                  |          |                          |