

Child Care Connections

We are a registered private non-profit agency that has been serving our 10 county region since 1979. As an advocate for high quality child care programs, Child Care Connections regularly assists child care professionals with

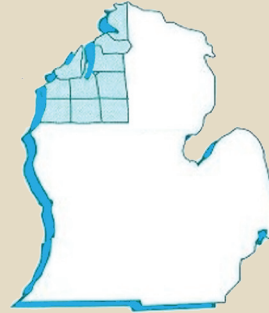
- * a lending library
- * trainings that focus on the care of children with special needs, infants and toddlers, and curricular enhancement
- * advancements in education and training
- * resources and information
- * technical assistance
- * sponsorship of the Child and Adult Care Food Program
- * coordinates with other agencies to address issues affecting children and families

Parents are served through provider referrals and access to parenting resources and information. For a list of providers, parents and guardians may visit:
www.greatstartconnect.org

Our Service Area

We serve the following counties:

Antrim
Benzie
Charlevoix
Emmet
Grand Traverse
Kalkaska
Leelanau
Manistee
Missaukee
Wexford



(231) 941-7767 or (800) 968-4228 (toll free)
(231) 941-9412 (fax)

www.childcarenwmi.com

Our Mission

To promote and strengthen quality child care.



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11-1026

Understanding Your Child's Development

12-15 Months Old



Great Start Regional Resource Center



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12-15 MONTHS

Child development not only encompasses a child's growth, it also shows the path as a child becomes able to do more complex activities. Although the "age specific tasks" listed can be used as benchmarks, the actual development rate is different for each and every child. These tasks are not tests; instead they indicate a continuum that human development follows. The differences from one individual to another are just a small part of what make each child so unique.

Physical Development

Measures: 28"-34"

Nutrition: He can use a fork and spoon, and can eat any food that is not a choking hazard. It is important to serve a variety of healthy foods and give new food experiences to him all the time.

Sleeps: He can sleep up to ten to twelve hours per night, and naps are taken one to two times daily (usually a shorter morning nap and longer afternoon nap).

Weighs: nineteen to twenty-eight pounds

Movement

Gross Motor: He walks without assistance, can carry objects, and bend over and pick up objects from a standing position. He can climb stairs, furniture, and play equipment.

Fine Motor: He loves to open containers, use thick crayons, an increased ability to use utensils.

Intellectual Development

Perception: Size differentiation is important. He shows a need for order and routine within his environment. Bits of information are being stored within for future use in problem solving.

Interest: He loves to imitate adult activities and spends a lot of time watching simple adult sequences and repeating them.

Problem-solving: He uses trial and error to manipulate objects and remembers the sequence to repeat them in. He learns that more problem-solving tasks can be solved by observation rather than personal trial and error.

Socio-emotional Development

Expressive: He has shifting moods and is more assertive and demanding.

Interaction: He is more independent and demanding, and wants to do as much as possible by himself. He takes a more active role in distancing himself from his mother. He imitates others, is less shy towards strangers, and is interested in the

exploration of the world and using the skills he has already developed.

Language

Nine to fifteen months is the Transition stage with language. The first deliberate words are spoken. He mimics and begins language with nouns. He can learn please and thank you, and at this point the understanding is progressing much more quickly than the spoken word. He wants to communicate and gets frustrated when he cannot. He goes along with simple requests and can point. He attempts many new words and vocal sounds. Now he will use gestures combined with vocals to get what he wants. It is important to engage in conversation with him.

Activities

Push and pull toys are enjoyable for him, as well as large objects for carrying around (i.e. beach ball, large cloth doll, gallon jugs). All types of building blocks, nesting activities, and containers are favorite activities. Reading, music, and exploring the environment continue to be interesting for him.