

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

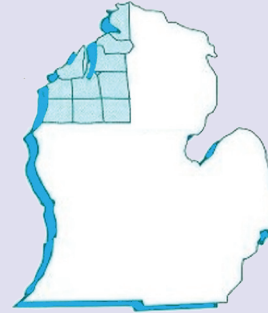
- * a lending library
- * trainings that focus on the care of children with special needs, infants and toddlers, and curricular enhancement
- * advancements in education and training
- * resources and information
- * technical assistance
- * sponsorship of the Child and Adult Care Food Program
- * coordinates 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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11-1030

Understanding Your Child's Development

30-36 Months Old



Great Start Regional Resource Center



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30-36 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: 35"-40"

Nutrition: He eats most foods and eats the same foods as the family. He should be allowed to eat the quantity he desires. He is eating independently and can use a fork well. He is able to choose food as well as help prepare food.

Sleeps: He can sleep up to ten to twelve hours per night, and naps are taken once in the afternoon, though he may give up the nap. He may wake and play independently for a while. Bed-time routine is both enjoyable and important.

Weighs: twenty-six to thirty-five pounds

Movement

Gross Motor: He can run, jump, and climb, and is better at starting and stopping. He can go

up and down stairs by alternating feet. He may pedal a tricycle and steer to avoid obstacles.

Fine Motor: He is developing very fine finger coordination. His hand-eye coordination is much smoother. He does not need as many manipulative toys, instead he enjoys helping adults with their tasks and gross motor activities.

Intellectual Development

Perception: He has a growing understanding of time sequence and self-movement through space. He can visually determine what objects are from a distance and size, shape, and color.

Interest: He likes to explore and investigate, and is interested in the events around him.

Problem-solving: He needs experiences to draw from for future problem solving. He thinks a situation through before acting, and has a concept of cause and effect relationships.

Socio-emotional Development

Expressive: He recognizes the effects of negative behavior, has mood swings, and shows joy in accomplishment.

Interaction: He likes to get attention from adults in acceptable ways, begins to share toys, and enjoys being with his peers. He is friendly and agreeable and has learned to take turns. He leads, follows, and competes with other children. Social interaction outside of the family increases. He enjoys dramatic play, pretending, and make believe.

Language

Language development is very strong. He is using two word phrases, and beginning to engage in fantasy play. He talks to dolls and stuffed animals often. If adults are open, he will ask for help when he needs it. He is becoming very independent and there is a great desire to use speech to communicate. He is beginning to use pronouns and add plurals. The idea of taking turns is understood.

Activities

He enjoys being read to and enjoys choosing books to read together. Introducing new art activities, dancing, listening to music, fingerplays, and group activities are favorites for the thirty-six month old.