

# Cognition Developmental Checklist

## 0 to 3 months

- responds to and imitates facial expressions of others
- recognizes bottle or breast
- briefly looks at objects

## Cognition

## 4 to 6 months

- explores with hands and mouth
- smiles/vocalizes to mirror image; reaches out to mirror image
- experiments with cause-effect: shakes rattle
- reaches for objects

## Cognition

## 7 to 9 months

- searches for partially hidden object
- struggles to get objects that are out of reach
- plays game like "peek-a-boo"
- imitates simple acts, e.g. clapping, nodding
- gives, points, shows
- pulls rings off peg

## Cognition

### 10 to 12 months

- tries to accomplish simple goals (seeing and then crawling to a toy)
- looks for/finds objects that are out of sight (such as a spoon that falls under the table)
- stacks rings on peg
- begins awareness of in/out (objects/ containers)

## Cognition

### 12 to 18 months

- explores objects in many different ways (shaking, banging, throwing, dropping)
- points to named pictures
- begins to use objects correctly (drinking from cup, brushing hair, dialing phone, listening to receiver)
- laughs at silly actions (as in wearing a bowl as a hat)
- solves problems by trial and error, e.g. inverts bottle to obtain object; obtains toy with stick
- scribbles spontaneously

## Cognitive

### 18 to 24 months

- finds objects even when hidden under two or three covers

- likes to take things apart
- stacks rings on peg in order of size; builds higher towers
- turns one page at a time
- activates mechanical toy
- pretend plays about familiar situations

## Cognition

### 2 – 2.5 Years

- begins to sort by shapes and colors
- names one color
- begins make-believe play; dramatizes mother and baby
- begins to understand functional concepts of familiar objects and part/whole concepts
- shares toys

## Cognition

### 2.5 to 3 years

- matches an object in hand or in the room to a picture in a book
- completes 5+ piece puzzle
- counts 2 to 3 objects; knows more numbers (but not always in the right order)
- remembers what happened yesterday
- knows where things usually belong

- substitutes one object for another in pretend play (as in pretending a block is a "car")
- laughs at silly ideas (like milking a dog)
- avoids some dangers, e.g. a hot stove or a moving car
- selects objects not the same / Which doesn't belong? from set of objects
- names own drawings
- pretends to be caregiver
- holds up fingers to tell age
- states first & last name

## Cognition

### 3 to 4 years

- identifies and names primary colors
- counts to ten
- approaches problems from a single point of view
- begins to have a clearer sense of time; wants to know what will happen next
- engages in fantasy play; distinguishes between the real and pretend worlds
- takes turns and can do so without always being reminded
- identifies situations that would lead to happiness, sadness, or anger

- draws somewhat recognizable picture that is meaningful to child if not to adult; names and briefly explains picture
- distinguishes day activity (playing) from night activity (sleeping)
- sequences familiar routines, simple finger plays, patterns of blocks
- traces/copies figures (squares), drawn objects
- knows division of day - morning, afternoon, night
- matches object to occupation - fishing rod to fisherman

## Cognition

### 4 to 5 years

- draws recognizable pictures; copies more complex figures (triangle)
- likes cutting/pasting
- knows own street and town
- begins to relate clock time to daily schedule
- identifies a problem, lists possible solutions verbally and chooses which one(s) are appropriate
- tells color of unseen object - "What color is an apple?"
- categorizes, naming items without visual clues, e.g. animals, food, toys; decides own criteria for categories
- predicts story from book cover
- names penny, nickel and dime
- knows days of the week

## Cognition

### 5 to 6 Years

- says letters of alphabet
- understands that letters written on a page represent spoken words
- understands number concepts to "ten"
- rote counts to 30+
- recognizes and can reproduce many shapes, letters, and numbers
- plays games by the rules
- understands seasons of the year
- begins to think about their own behavior/actions and to see consequences/  
explain situations
- begins to read and write, distinguishing capitals and lowercase
- uses invented spelling (e.g. color could be spelled "kplr") (E)
- arranges objects in order, according to size
- completes simple maze
- adds, subtracts
- comprehends directional commands - left/right

## Cognition

### 6 to 8 years

- can develop a plan to meet a goal
- rote counts to 100+

- understand/use riddles and idioms ("Hold your horses.")
- tells jokes
- tells own address, phone number
- names months of the year
- names month for a given holiday
- can tell time