

Social-Emotional Development for Young Children 54-72 Months Old



- Your child likes to play best with one or two other children at a time.
- Your child likes to choose his own friends and may have a best friend.
- Your child now plays simple games such as Candy Land and Go Fish.
- Your child may play with small groups of children at the park or at school.
- Your child understands and can follow simple rules at home and at school.
- Your child shows a variety of emotions. She may be jealous of other children at times, especially of a younger brother or sister who is getting attention.
- Your child is now very independent and likes to make his own choices about clothes to wear, foods to eat, and activities in which to be involved.
- Your child is sensitive to other children's feelings. She can identify other people's feelings: "She's sad."
- Your child likes to talk with familiar adults and children.
- Your child understands how to take turns and share at home and at school, but he may not want to all of the time.
- Your child is beginning to understand the meaning of right and wrong. She does not always do what is right, though.
- Adult approval is very important to your child. Your child looks to adults for attention and praise.
- Your child is showing some self-control in group situations and can wait for his turn or stand in a line.
- Your child is usually able to respond to requests such as "Use your quiet voice" or "Inside is for walking."
- Your child's attention span is increasing. She is able to focus her attention for a necessary length of time, such as listening to directions or a story.