

Smart Start for Toddlers 18-24 months-old

Getting Ready for School Begins at Birth



**Tyrone Area School District
Parenting Tips**

Smart Start for Toddlers

18-20 month-old

YOUR 18-20 MONTH—OLD TODDLER	ACTIVITIES
<p style="text-align: center;">Physical</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brushes teeth with help. • Throws ball overhand. • Shows interest in toilet training. • Washes and dries their own hands with help. • Takes off own clothes. • Can walk up steps with help. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Physical Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help your child with a tooth brushing routine. • Help your child wash and dry their own hands. • Practice walking up steps.
<p style="text-align: center;">Language</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will “read” board books on their own. • Scribbles well. • Speaks in two or more word phrases. • Understands as many as 200 words. • Learns new words at a rate of 10 words per day. • Begins drawing straight lines. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Language Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide board books for your child to explore on their own. • Provide markers and crayons for your toddler to scribble and make straight lines. • Talk and read to your child to develop their vocabulary. Now is the optimum time to develop vocabulary!
<p style="text-align: center;">Thinking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Takes toys apart and puts them back together. • Recognizes when something is wrong (e.g. if you call a dog a cat). • Points to the picture of an object if you say it's name. • Can name several body parts. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Thinking Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide toys that come apart and go back together easily. • When reading have your child point to the dog, cat, etc... in the book. • Play body part naming games.
<p style="text-align: center;">Social</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enjoys helping grown ups with common chores. • Needs help learning self-control. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Social Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage your child to help you with simple chores. • Put your child's feelings into words. (“I know you're mad because we have to leave the park. It's okay to be mad, but it's time to go home. When we get home we can play with your dolls.”)

Smart Start for Toddlers

20-24 month-old

YOUR 21-24 MONTH—OLD TODDLER	ACTIVITIES
<p style="text-align: center;">Physical</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can walk downstairs with help. • Can put on loose fitting clothing. • Opens doors 	<p style="text-align: center;">Physical Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice going up and down steps. • Provide opportunities for your child to explore dressing themselves.
<p style="text-align: center;">Language</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can draw a straight line and scribble. • Talks about self (likes, dislikes) • Asks "why?" • Sings familiar simple songs. • Uses 50-70 words. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Language Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sing familiar songs and recite familiar Nursery Rhymes with your toddler.
<p style="text-align: center;">Thinking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follows two step requests. (e.g. "Get your doll and bring it here.") • Completes simple puzzles. • Developing an understanding of opposites (short/tall, big/little). 	<p style="text-align: center;">Thinking Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide two step requests for your toddler to follow. • Complete simple puzzles with your child.
<p style="text-align: center;">Social</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May be ready for a big bed. • Begins taking a strong interest in playing with other kids. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Social Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go to the park so your child has others to play with. • Schedule play dates so your child has opportunities to play with others.