



## Cognitive Developmental Milestones

Cognitive development involves attention, memory, mental representation, logic and reasoning, and classification. Children construct their knowledge by interacting with all aspects of their environment. Children learn when they solve problems or conflicts. When children interact with unfamiliar objects and experiences, they exercise their developing skills and learn more about their world.

### Infant Developmental Milestones

Infants' cognitive development begins through their interactions with adults. Infants' cognitive development is also influenced by sensory experiences and their ability to process sensory information.

Age	Cognitive Developmental Milestones
0-3 Months	Follows moving objects Recognizes familiar objects and people at a distance Distinguishes smells and taste Prefers sweeter smells Reaches towards sound of toys that make noise
4-7 months	Finds partially hidden object Explores objects with hands and mouth Struggles to get objects that are out of reach Responds to affection Recognizes familiar faces
8-12 months	Explores objects in different ways Finds hidden objects easily Looks at correct picture when the image is named Imitates gestures



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### Toddler Developmental Milestones

Toddlers can begin to solve simple problems, complete more difficult tasks, and explore unfamiliar objects.

Age	Cognitive Developmental Milestones
12-24 months	Repeats actions for cause and effect Asks simple questions Imitates actions, words, and sounds Understands objects and people still exist when not in view Interacts with objects and toys to solve problems
24-36 months	Makes connections between ideas and objects Makes predictions with adult assistance Discusses how and why things occur Experiments with objects for cause and effect Attempts to problem solve without adult assistance



## Cognitive Developmental Milestones

### Preschool Developmental Milestones

Cognitive development in preschoolers enables them to coordinate and categorize their thoughts. With their new level of communication, they are able to effectively understand and problem solve when given new information. Preschoolers ask questions and take in facts. Unlike toddlers, preschoolers are able to recall past and anticipate future events.

Age	Cognitive Developmental Milestones
36-48 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Carries out cause and effects actions</li><li>Uses objects as intended for activities</li><li>Identifies familiar objects and people in new situations</li><li>Utilizes clues to predict what will happen next</li><li>Discusses how new learning relates to concrete objects based on prior knowledge</li><li>Tests different possibilities to problem solve</li><li>Recognizes and comment on cause and effect</li></ul>
48-60 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Uses reasoning skills to explain events</li><li>Makes conclusions based on facts and evidence</li><li>Understands how to use objects in new situations</li><li>Counts up to the number 15</li><li>Uses observation and imitation to transfer new experiences and facts</li></ul>