

Age 3 Years - Developmental Milestones

By 3 years of age, children are usually able to ride a tricycle and are able to climb stairs with alternating feet as opposed to one step at a time. Three years olds are also able to stack a tower of 9 blocks and typically begin to toilet train although girls may begin this process earlier than boys. By 3 years of age, most children can also say sentences of 3 words and knows how to say their first name. At this age, children also begin to dress and undress themselves and can also copy a circle.



PLAY PICMONIC

Gross Motor

Walks Up/Down Steps with Alternating Feet

[Stairs with Alternating Feet](#)

Three-year-old children are typically able to climb stairs with alternating feet. Note that this is different than climbing stairs one at a time, which most two-year-old children are able to do.

Rides Tricycle

[Tricycle](#)

By three years of age, children are usually able to ride a tricycle.

Fine Motor

Nine Block Tower

[\(9\) Lives-cat and Blocks](#)

By three years of age, children are usually able to stack a tower of nine blocks.

Copies Circle

[Circle](#)

At three years of age, children are usually able to copy a circle.

Uses Utensils

[Utensils](#)

A three-year-old child will begin to master using utensils to feed himself or herself.

Language

Three-Word Sentences

[\(3\) Tree and Words](#)

Three-year-old children are often able to speak using three-word sentences.

75% Speech Understood by Stranger

[75% Speech Heard](#)

At three years of age, 75 percent of children's speech is typically understood by a complete stranger.

Social / Cognitive

Knows Gender / Age

[Gender-symbol and Age on Hand](#)

Most children at three years old know their age and name, and they are beginning to develop gender identity.