Prepare for Kindergarten

Ready in Stages

24-36 Months / 2-3 Years

Children need specific skills to find success in school. Chart your child's language, reading, math, reasoning, and social and emotional skills.

A toddler learns from what he sees and hears. He imitates others.

By the end of three years, your toddler should:

- ☐ Use 50 – 300 different words.
- ☐ Say 3 – 5 word statements/sentences.
- ☐ Ask many questions like, "What's that?", "Who's that?", "What's that do?"
- ☐ Use speech that can be understood most of the time.
- ☐ Be able to play co-operatively with others.
- ☐ Stack 8 or more blocks.
- ☐ Hold a crayon between his first two fingers and thumb.
- ☐ Walk up and down steps without help.
- ☐ Stand on one foot for a few moments.
- ☐ Walk heel to toe.
- ☐ Name some objects in picture books – cat, dog, apple, tree, bird, car.
- ☐ Know familiar people and some body parts.
- ☐ Put objects together and take them apart.
- ☐ Drink through a straw.
- ☐ Dring from a cup without spilling.
- ☐ Show signs of empathy and caring for others. Give hugs. Comfort a child who is hurt.
- ☐ Start to recognize some colors like blue, green or red.
- ☐ Be able to jump.
- ☐ Catch a large ball.
- ☐ Be able to zip and unzip.

Your child:

- Is likely to have temper tantrums.
- Is impatient. It is hard for her to take turns.
- May have an imaginary friend.
- Likes to play and use make-believe.
- Wants to be more independent. He may want to dress himself or wash his hands by himself.
- Has about 15 baby teeth.

Read the Parent Help Line's *Live Love Grow and Learn* booklets for ideas to help your toddler grow and develop.