**Social Skills**

- Using attention seeking words, e.g. “Watch me”
- Comes to adult for affection
- Starting to enjoy jokes
- Solving problems by talking rather than hitting
- Talks to other children as well as adults.
- Will respond to less familiar adults

**Play & General Learning skills**

- Starting make-believe play, e.g. shops, joins at least 2 parts of The ‘play/story’ e.g. puts food in basket, then pays for it
- Takes on the role of another person during play e.g. being the shop assistant
- Carries on conversation with self and dolls / play material
- Matches 3-4 colours
- Can complete puzzles needing fine finger control

**Listening & understanding**

- Understands big & little
- Understands ‘where’ and ‘who’ questions
- Will listen to a short story and stay on task for 6-7 minutes
- Has favourite stories/rhymes & enjoys listening to them over & over
- Understands 15+ ‘action/doing’ Words e.g. jump, run, brush
- Can match pictures/objects with their use e.g. “show me the one we cut with”
- Can follow instructions with 3 important words e.g. give mummy the big spoon

**Expressive skills**

- Sings songs and tells stories
- Makes short sentences of 4 or more words e.g. want more juice please
- Beginning to ask where, why and who questions
- Able to talk about things that have already happened to them
- Counting 3 objects, pointing to each one as they count
- People outside the family can understand at least half of what s/he says
- Using the sounds m n p b t d w y h

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**Usually acquired by 3 years**

- Talks regularly to other children and adults
- Beginning to form friendships
- Takes turns when encouraged
- Starts a conversation and can keep to the topic
- Responds to reasoning from familiar adults

**Usually acquired by 4 years**

- Joins in simple games with rules e.g. picture lotto, simon says
- Longer sequences of pretend play e.g. dress up and act out familiar situations
- Able to use objects imaginatively e.g. pretends a box is a car
- Plays with construction toys e.g. Lego/duplo
- Physical play with swings, tricycles
- Groups objects together e.g. all the farm animals, vehicles etc
- Shows an interest in finishing things e.g. completing a puzzle

- Understanding a wider range of concepts e.g. colours, in/on/under, full/empty, hot/cold, up/down
- Beginning to answer ‘when’ questions e.g. when do we go to bed?
- Can stay with one activity for at least 10 minutes
- Fetches 3 objects at a time e.g. can you get the scissors, pen and glue
- New follows longer instructions that include a sequence e.g. wash your hands then sit on the carpet
- Understands a simple story with pictures and can re-tell it

- Using longer sentences of 5-8 words including link words e.g. because, but
- Spoken language is becoming more grammatically correct e.g. uses –ing endings...running
- Starting to use words such as I, you, she, he, me
- Using a wider range of words e.g. naming, action, describing
- Keeps up a conversation with an adult for 3-4 turns
- Speech is understood most of the time. Now using sounds p b t d k g f s w y h sh ch j

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