

THRIVE BY 3



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LEARNING

"YOU TEACH ME ABOUT THE WORLD"

Title:

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Learning

"You teach me about the world"

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THRIVE BY 3



About

- Knowledge – show me how things are related to each other
- Numbers, spaces and shapes – "The ball is round!"
- Nature, animals and science – I like being outdoors and exploring what is around me
- Creativity – a multiartist lives inside me

In this booklet you will find text and suggestions for expanding your child's knowledge of the world, about numbers, shapes and spaces, about your child's interest in nature, animals and science and your child's immense creativity. The information is presented in two columns: "Children can...." are examples of what children aged 9-18 and 16-36 months are about to learn, be, do, and know. "What you can try to do together with your child...." are examples of what you can do to help your child thrive, learn, and develop. Some of the things you will read will likely be familiar and you probably already practice some of the examples of what you can do together with your child. Perhaps there is still something that is new to you, something you did not know your child could do, or that you would like to try some of the suggestions with your child?

Keep in mind that the age divisions are not absolute. Many younger children can do some of the things listed for children aged 16-36 months, and much of what is listed under 9-18 months is applicable to older children.

The descriptions and suggestions in this booklet can be viewed as a basis for thinking through and talking about how to best support your child in different situations in everyday life. They are not set answers.

KNOWLEDGE

SHOW ME HOW THINGS ARE RELATED TO EACH OTHER

Children aged 9-18 months can...

- Observe other people's activities and then imitate their actions, gestures and sounds to others.
- Use imitation to achieve a desired effect such as initiating a game or getting hold of a desired object.
- Explore things in many different ways, e.g. shake, turn on, throw, push, poke with their finger, etc.
- Enjoy playing hide-and-seek games, e.g. finding objects/toys that were hidden while they watched.
- Use objects as they are intended, e.g. press the buttons on a toy phone, hold the phone to their ear, drink from a cup, etc.
- Use objects to achieve a goal, e.g. use a bucket to carry toys from one place to another.
- Seek their caregiver's help through the use of sounds, gestures, words and facial expressions to obtain objects or to initiate an activity.
- See that objects are similar to each other and lay them next to each other (sort).
- Start playing pretend by imitating others, e.g. hold a dolly or a cuddly toy and rock or feed it.

What you can try to do together with your child...

- Provide your child with opportunities to explore cause and effect, such as turning the lights on and off.
- Talk about and show cause-effect "If you throw your cup on the floor, you won't be able to get it".
- Let your child have access to toys that they can put together, e.g. puzzles, blocks and Lego.
- Play games with your child showing that things that are hidden are still there, e.g. peek-a-boo and various "now you see it, now you don't" games such as hide-and-seek.
- Explain to your child how different phenomena are connected with each other, e.g. "today it's raining so you have to wear a raincoat so you don't get wet". "The stove is hot; if you touch it you will burn yourself".
- Encourage your child to do things in different ways, e.g. place blocks on top of each other in different sequences.
- Give your child access to toys that encourage pretend play, e.g. such as tools, dolls, toy animals, kitchen utensils, etc.

Children aged 16-36 months can....

- Know that playing with certain toys or forbidden things will attract the attention of an adult.
- Act based on past experience. For example, if a caregiver blows on their food before a child eats it, the child will blow on their food the next time they eat.
- Connect different things to special activities, e.g. sweeping with a broom.
- Repeat an action over and over until they are able to do it correctly, e.g. stack blocks on top of each other without them falling down again.
- Show that they remember people and events, e.g. by clapping their hands when they are doing something they really, or told that someone they like is coming to visit.
- Play pretend with dolls, teddy bears, toy animals, tools, etc.
- "Read" to dolls as if they were real.

What you can try to do together with your child...

- Let your child play with materials that change consistency once they are mixed together, e.g. see that water and flour become a dough.
- Include your child in your home's daily chores and explain to your child what you are doing and why you do it. "We sweep the floor to get rid of the dirt, we wash the plates so they will be clean etc."
- Give your child an opportunity to find solutions to problems themselves. Help your child if they don't succeed after some time has passed, and explain or suggest different solutions your child might try.
- Encourage your child's imagination by playing pretend with them. Let your child decide what role you should play and follow their instructions. Make suggestions and encourage your child to try out some of them, e.g. "What if I get tired and want go to bed, could you put the covers over me and sing a little to me?"



NUMBERS, SPACES AND SHAPES

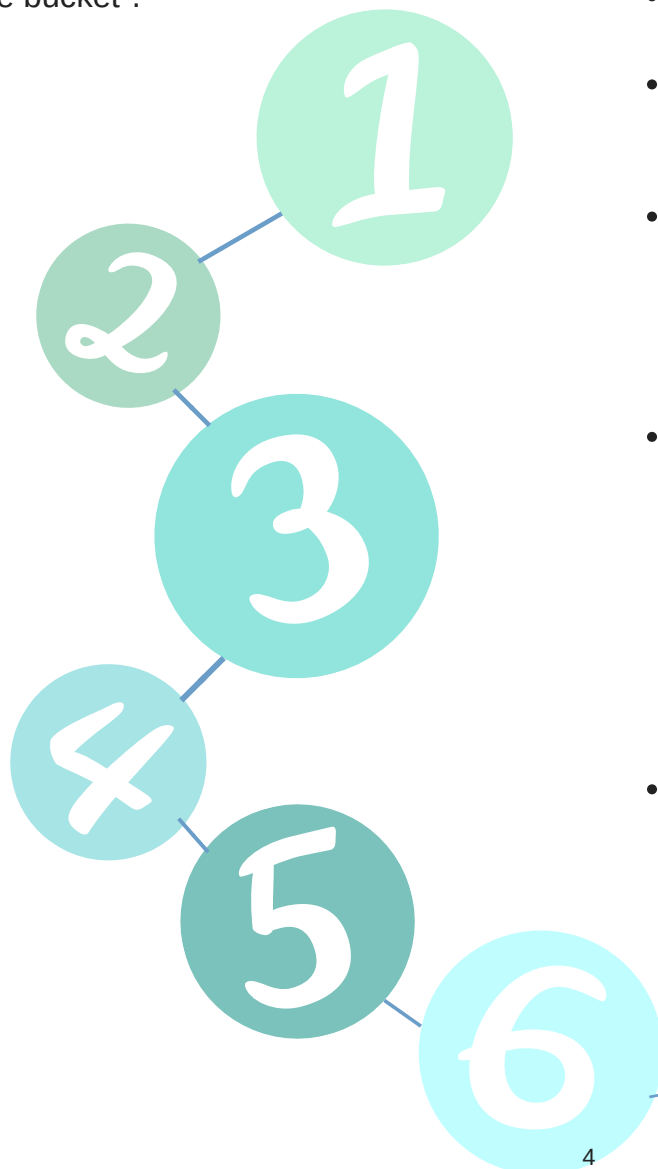
"THE BALL IS ROUND!"

Children aged 9-18 months can...

- Understand the idea of "more" related to food and play.
- Use gestures, sounds, and words to ask for more.
- Imitate counting by saying the name of a few numbers, e.g. one-two-three!
- Follow simple instructions that contain prepositions (in, on, up, down, back, front, inside). For example, "Put the block on the table" "Pour the water into the bucket".

What you can try to do together with your child...

- Count objects with your child. Let your child touch every object/thing you count.
- Say the names of colours and shapes on the toys and objects your child is surrounded by or interested in.
- Sing songs and read books with figures and counting, and books with colours and objects in different forms and shapes.
- Involve your child in activities that show "more" and "less".
- Give your child access to blocks with numbers or other toys that display numbers and quantities.
- Give your child access to toys that have a set of sizes, e.g. graduated size nesting blocks, or rings of different sizes that stack on top of one another from largest to smallest.
- Give your child an opportunity to sort and categorise, e.g. "Can you bring me the yellow ball?", "Where is the blue block?" "Can you give me the biggest block?" "Where is the smallest ball?". Even if your child does not manage to do what you ask of them, repeat and show if necessary.
- Use counting and numbers in daily activities, e.g. count out loud how many children are in the playground, how many people are sitting around the dinner table, etc.



Children aged 16-36 months can....

- Count to 10 without help.
- Start counting small collections of things, up to 5 things.
- Understand the term "one" and "two" so they can follow instructions, e.g., one biscuit.
- Recognise and say a few numbers.
- Recognise amounts and amount words such as all, some, none.
- Use comparison words such as bigger, smaller, more and less correctly.
- Explore measuring instruments such as ruler, measurement cups, etc.
- Identify two geometric forms such as a square, a circle, etc.

What you can try to do together with your child...

- Use numbers and math words in everyday routines: e.g. "Do you want one or two slices of bread?", "Let's divide the bread into squares – one, two, three, four!", "Can you help me put the round plates on the table?".
- Give your child access to things with different shapes, sizes and colours. Help your child sort from largest to smallest, longest to shortest, or by colour. Describe what your child is doing and describe what you are doing if you are helping.
- Let your child play with sand and water to give them an opportunity to pour, dig, fill, empty, weigh and pour out.
- When you're outside in nature, let your child explore with you. Look for different patterns, textures, sizes, numbers, and shapes in nature, e.g. large trees, small flowers, etc.



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NATURE, ANIMALS AND SCIENCE

I LIKE BEING OUTDOORS AND EXPLORING WHAT IS AROUND ME

Children aged 9-18 months can...

What you can try to do together with your child...

- Express pleasure over playing outside with water, sand, dirt, etc.
- Express pleasure/zeal when they see animals, birds or fish. Show an interest in animals and pictures of animals, or toy animals.
- Notice the properties and characteristics of nature such as leaves, rain, wind, hills, rivers, etc.
- Enjoy playing with technical toys such as wind-up cars, or other toys that "go by themselves".
- Explore various "spaces" – try to fit into a cardboard box, lay down in a doll bed, crawl underneath furniture.
- Remember/know the place of familiar things, such as knowing where their favorite toy is, where the pram they're going to sleep in stands, where the toilet is, where the rubbish bin is, etc.

- Explore nature together with your child. Pinecones, leaves, sticks, ants and anthills, beetles, etc.
- Let your child touch something that is wet, dry, cold, warm.
- Read books and sing songs about animals and nature.
- Talk to your child about different kinds of weather and changes in the weather. Sun, rain, snow, hot, cold, wind, etc.

Children aged 16-36 months can....

What you can try to do together with your child...

- Look at and examine objects and identify what's similar and what's different about them.
- Ask simple questions about nature and natural phenomena (e.g. where did the rainbow go? Where is the snow?).
- Show interest in animals and living organisms, say their names and know what sound the animals make.

- Give your child access to explore with all their senses, e.g. smell a flower, play with water and sand, listen to music, etc.
- Talk to your child about animals and plants living in nature.

- Play-act the movements and activities of animals (such as sleeping, eating) in pretend play. Play with toy animals in a way that mimics the way animals move and live in nature.
 - Explore different parts of living organisms such as the leaves of a flower.
 - Talk about different things in nature and know what plants need to live and grow (e.g. "The tree needs water to grow").
 - Identify different types of weather such as sun, rain, snow, wind, etc.
 - Know that humans and animals can live in different places, such as the fish live in the water, the cow lives on the farm, and the squirrel lives in the forest.
- Talk to your child about the various traits and characteristics of animals such as the sounds they make, where they live, what foods they eat, etc.
 - Show your child pictures of things in nature such as mountains, waterfalls, rivers, caves, lakes, etc.
 - Give your child the opportunity to think ahead by asking them "What if... questions" about nature.



CREATIVITY

A MULTIARTIST LIVES INSIDE ME!

Children aged 9-18 months can...

- Explore different kinds of artistic materials such as paint, crayons, modelling dough, clay, etc.
- Explore various sounds such as a rattle, a drum or clocks.
- Show interest in sounds, voices, music, colours, and shapes.
- Derive great enjoyment from rhythm and movement.

What you can try to do together with your child...

- Look at pictures, drawings, paintings with your child, and describe what you see and what they show an interest in, point to, or look at.
- Sing motion songs and clap, jump, stomp, and dance with your child.
- Let your child hear different ways of using their voice: singing, talking, humming.
- Let your child listen to different types of music, preferably from different parts of the world.

Children aged 16-36 months can....

- Sing and make up simple songs and/or make music with instruments.
- Explore different ways of moving their body, both with and without music.
- Imitate other people's movements after seeing them.
- Act out familiar actions, situations, episodes.

What you can try to do together with your child...

- Let your child play various musical instruments.
- Give your child the opportunity to listen to music from different cultures and parts of the world.
- Let your child make art and music with the help of things you find in nature.
- Arrange for your child to do different table activities: drawing, painting, clay, cutting and pasting, etc. Preferably keep the materials easily accessible.
- Be a role model for your child by participating in creative activities yourself. Be clear that it is not the result that is the most important. Have fun trying!
- Describe what your child is doing, ask them what they were thinking, give them specific praise and feedback.





KNOWLEDGE -

SHOW ME HOW THINGS ARE RELATED TO EACH OTHER

NUMBERS, SPACES AND SHAPES

- "THE BALL IS ROUND!"

NATURE, ANIMALS AND SCIENCE

- I LIKE BEING OUTDOORS AND EXPLORING WHAT IS AROUND ME

CREATIVITY

- A MULTIARTIST LIVES INSIDE ME



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