Behavior Expected in Preschool Children

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Curriculum Area	Expected Behavior			
	At Three Years	At Four Years	At Five Years	
Health and Safety	Judges how far to climb and return safely	Handles blunt scissors safely	Handles saw and hammer safely	
	Urinates without help unless clothing is complex	Knows the blood forms a scab to protect new skin	Puts away toys and closes cupboard doors	
		Unzips, unsnaps, and unbuckles	Goes to bathroom by himself	
Physical Development	Walks a board holding adult's hand	Walks along a walking board	Walks a narrow curb	
	Stops or goes on the slide	Explores variations on the slide	Swings by himself	
	Likes to swing	Leans to pump in swinging	Cuts on the line	
	Climbs a ladder	Goes down fireman's pole	Learns to skip	
	Learns to jump	Learns to hop		
Social Understanding	Enjoys his own birthday	Takes turns	Waits for his turn	
	Enjoys simple house play and dressing up	Enjoys birthdays and Christmas	Enjoys birthdays and other holidays	
	Learns to move with the	Extends dramatic play –	Extends dramatic play	
	group activities	doctor, store, police, delivery	further	
		Explores leader or follower role in group activities	Enlarges his feeling of belonging to the group	
Science	Knows where he came from	Knows death is part of life	Knows how he was conceived	
	Knows where his food goes	Knows sounds, nests, and other things about animals	Knows what foods different animals eat	
	Names several animals	Makes his own observations	Reports what he observes	
	Observes what is pointed out			
Geography	Knows relation of rooms indoors	Uses landmarks	Draws and uses a simple map	
	Recognizes his own home	Can go around the block	Walks several blocks to school	
		Recognizes his own neighborhood		
Mathematics	Names a few numbers	Counts a few numbers	Counts to 10	
	Lives in the present	Deals with the past and the future	Thinks of uses of numbers	
			Uses a wider span of time in planning	

Language	Learns sounds used in words	Increases his command of	Has mastered most word
Development		oral sounds	sounds
	Uses simple sentences	Uses compound sentences	Prints own name
	Learns new words	Increases his vocabulary	Uses adverbial clauses
			Increases his vocabulary
Stories	Like short picture stories	Likes realistic picture stories	Likes realistic and
		(e.g., about home)	imaginative stories with little
			drama and happy ending
	Does short pantomimes with	Pantomimes a simple story	Dramatizes simple stories
	adult	told by adult	
Art	Likes easel painting	Likes to use a brush or other	Makes designs and realistic
		tool	portrayals
	Scribbles with crayons	Paints and draws with some	
		design	
	Enjoys several art media	Enjoys a variety of media and	
		several art tools	
Music	Likes music	Creates dance movements to	Follows simple dance
		music	suggestions
	Distinguishes "indoors" from	Enjoys action stories to music	Tells high from low, soft
	"outdoors" voice		from loud, fast music from
			slow
		Learns short songs by rote	Learns songs by rote
			Creates song phrases
Relating to	Plays parallel to others	Plays with others or by	Increases his cooperative
Others		himself	play
		Does dramatic play with	Is more sensitive to the
		others	needs of others
		Expresses sympathy	
		Finds his own emotional	
		outlet	