

Developmental Snapshot

12 to 18 Months



Lily loves to play on the climber while you are watching. If it seems like you are not paying attention she will walk over to you and give a little poke. If an unfamiliar person comes near during her play then she will stay by you until you go with her to the climber. However, if another child comes near the climber Lily goes right over to them to see what they are doing. Sometimes Lily will copy the actions of the other child. When at home Lily seems to get into everything she sees and LOVES to open and close doors and cabinets. She gets a huge smile on her face when she realizes she can make things happen over and over again.

Luke is very busy exploring the world around him and trying new things, many of which he can't yet do. Sometimes he gets frustrated and may push item away he is trying to work with or if he is successful he excitedly works to get your attention so you can see. Additionally, he is starting to react to limit setting. When Luke gets upset one of his favorite calming activities is looking at books. He is able to point to the pictures in the board book as you talk about the pictures. If it is an item he really likes he may gesture and babble some words to communicate this with you. A first word maybe one of these items or a word heard often. When at home, Thomas is always on the move, crawling, walking, and climbing all over the place. He will often move around the house and squat down to pick-up whatever he finds on the floor. He also giggles when you put his socks on and he quickly takes them right off.

Try this...

- Make a family book full of photos that your child can look at when they are at home with a babysitter or take with them to child care. This helps develop a sense of security needed at this age. Label people and favorite items to develop vocab.
- Children at this age are ready to gain some autonomy; you can do this by giving them simple choices like do you want to wear the red socks or blue socks today? Do you want a banana or some peaches? Because autonomy is wanted it is now time to start giving warnings before it is time to change activities to help avoid power struggles.
- At this age togetherness time is loved; playing/singing simple games like "Ring Around the Rosie" or "Itsy Bitsy Spider" or rereading favorite pictures books allow for that while also developing language and those first words, while also working on large and fine motor skills.