

# Developmental Snapshot

## 18 to 24 Months



Tonya is a social butterfly at home! Saturday mornings she is always up bright and early and begins the day by bringing all her toys to you and piling them on you in bed. When the doorbell rings she runs to the door, repeating “hi, hi, hi” no matter who it is. In the same breath when you take her to tumbling class she acts a little shy and holds your hand for the first few minutes of class. For the most part Tonya is very easy going, but she has a love for her new favorite word, “no” which is her automatic responses no matter what the question is. She does follow 1-2 step directions though with your modeling and guidance in completing the task, like getting undressed for a bath.

Thomas loves to play fire fighter. He puts on his fire fighter hat and jacket and smiles at himself in the mirror. At school or during play dates Thomas does a lot of watching and copying of what the other child is doing. They are playing along side one another, but not really together. Also, if a friend has something Thomas wants often times he will just take it without asking. If a child tries to take something from him he is quick to say “no”! Thomas is also starting to use many other words and is putting them into two or three word sentences. These phrases usually are connected to something he wants, “more milk” or something he observes “dog is barking”. A lot of times Thomas then likes to do the activities he is saying. For example, if he says, “mom sweeping” he will pretending to sweep. On his own some of his favorite activities are hammering pegs into the peg board, using the shape sorter, and seeing what different noises the drums make.

### Try this....

- Begin developing those self-help skills. Start your child’s zipper and let them finish. Teach them the flip trick with putting jacket on.
- Set aside time for puzzles, pegboard work, blocks, stringing beads, sorting games, peeling objects, or spreading peanut butter on bread to enhance fine motor development and cognitive skills.
- Help your toddler develop their communication skills by singing songs, reciting nursery rhymes, reading books together, pretend to talk on the phone to one another, and just always talk about what you are doing and observing.
- Model taking turns, asking to be next, expressing feelings when we don’t get our way, as a means of embracing prosocial behaviors.