

03.25

Dear Parents of Blue Door,

Hi, this week the children learned about Insects. During Circle Time the teacher talked about some of the insects such as the Bee, Butterfly, Fly, Ants and Ladybugs. In class we have a lot of different Insects and the children were told to go over to the bin and choose the insect she mentioned. During Circle Time the teacher also teaches the colors and shapes. Parents please review with your child these things as well.

For Art, the children had a great time coloring a small paper plate using a red crayon and then glued the black dots to it as well as the head. Bumble Bee craft was lots of fun as well. The children painted a small paper plate yellow and then added the black stripes to it and then the antennae to their bee as well as the wings. Putting puzzles together, building with Legos, playing with different Insects, sea animals and dinosaurs is always lots of fun. Housekeeping is always enjoyed. The children love to cook and make cafecito.

Playground time is a big favorite. They love to play with their friends. As we are on the playground we also practice our gross motor skills. This week the children jumped in place, threw the ball, played basketball games, hopped in place and ran two laps around the playground.

As your 3-year-old's attention span grows and more verbal skills develop, they will be better able to follow instructions and express their own needs, feelings, and thoughts. The transition from toddler to preschooler, though, can often be a bit bumpy. Expect a fair share of meltdowns and tantrums, but know they come in tandem with a silliness and creative spirit that will bring plenty of joy, too.

3-year-old development milestones:

Physical Development

Not only are 3-year-olds growing in height and weight, but they are also fine-tuning gross and fine motor skills. Like everything else, mastery of these skills will vary by child and by their ability and size. As your 3-year-old grows, they are learning more about their own body and how to control it. Their balance will get better and, with practice, your child will be able to do things they hadn't been able to before.<sup>2</sup>

Key Milestones

Gross motor skills: Most 3-year-olds are able to walk a line, balance on a low balance beam, skip or gallop, and walk backward. They can usually pedal a tricycle, catch a large ball, and jump with two feet.

Fine motor skills: By age 3, kids can usually wash and dry their hands, dress themselves with a little assistance, and turn pages in a book. Most preschoolers can hold a writing instrument with their fingers, not their fists.

Major highlights: Many 3-year-olds are also ready to be potty-trained.

Yes, all that running, climbing, jumping, and non-stop moving can be hard to keep up with. It may be tempting to tell your 3-year-old to "stay still," but allowing kids the freedom to run, climb, and jump is essential. Preschoolers need to practice their physical skills so they can develop better balance and coordination.

#### Emotional Development

Temper tantrums tend to peak around this age as your child learns to deal with stressful situations. So even though your 3-year-old may insist on independence, they'll struggle to deal with frustration when given the opportunity to try something on their own.

Some 3-year-olds have a hard time being separated from their caregivers. So your child may cry when you drop them off at preschool or may express sadness about going to daycare, even if they like it there.

Parents , please wash your child's blanket and return it to school on Monday nice and clean. Make sure your child's nails are cut short.

Have a great weekend!

Mrs. Cindy

Mrs. Luz