



GCAPP PARENT TOOLKIT:

Your Toddler's Development: 15-18 Months

This is an exciting time in your child's growth! At this stage, toddlers are discovering the world in brand-new ways. They're full of curiosity, eager to try things "all by myself," and constantly learning by watching and copying you, their most important teacher.

How do you see your child learning from watching you?

■ What Your Toddler Can Do (Physical / Motor Skills)

■ What Parents Can Do to Support (Physical / Motor Support)

▶ Walks confidently, runs, climbs, and kicks a ball.

▶ Provide safe indoor/outdoor spaces for running, climbing, and exploring. Supervise safe risk-taking activities to build confidence and balance.

▶ Scribbles with crayons, stacks blocks, and begins using utensils to feed self.

▶ Offer toys and materials for fine motor development (crayons, stacking blocks, shape sorters) and encourage self-feeding or dressing to strengthen coordination.

▶ Helps with simple tasks like putting toys away.

▶ Involve your child in daily chores in small ways, modeling how to tidy up and celebrate their effort.

▶ Begins to jump with both feet off the ground and climb stairs with alternating feet.

▶ Encourage safe practice of gross motor skills with games, soft play mats, and supervised stair climbing.

▶ Can manipulate simple objects like turning knobs, opening boxes, and stacking multiple items.

▶ Provide age-appropriate toys and objects for hands-on exploration, problem-solving, and building dexterity.

🔍 SOURCES

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2023). 2-year-old developmental milestones. CDC. <https://www.cdc.gov/act-early/milestones/2-years.html>
- Zero to Three. (2021). 2-year-old child development: What to expect. <https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/series/ages-and-stages>

For more information on parenting and child development, go to: www.zerotothree.org.



GEORGIA CAMPAIGN FOR
ADOLESCENT POWER & POTENTIAL
Education • Prevention • Action
For Adolescent Health