

FOUR-YEAR-OLD BEHAVIOR PROFILE

PLAY ACTIVITIES

1. Considerable increase in constructive use of materials and media.
2. Increased manipulation.
3. Begins to include other children in her play (two or three).
4. Has no play carry-over from day to day.
5. Likes to "play like."
6. May suggest turns but is often selfish and bossy.
7. Begins to identify with own sex as playmates.
8. Enjoys greater variety of activities.
9. May do silly things on purpose, or call people names.
10. Likes to dress up.
11. Can put away own toys.

EASEL PAINTING

1. Strokes are varied.
2. Skills and design begin to emerge.
3. The painting may cover the entire page.
4. Shows active imagination, with shifting ideas as she paints.
5. Increased verbal accompaniment as she paints.
6. Attaches deep personal value to her work.
7. May attempt crude letters.
8. Holds brush in adult manner.

FINGER PAINTING

1. Continues to experiment, using fingers, hands, fist and arms in rhythmic manner.
2. Increased representation and begins to name (talk about her work).
3. Still is more interested in process than in finished product.

CLAY

1. Demands large masses for manipulation.
2. Increases representation and imagination.

BLOCKS

1. Combines many shapes of blocks in a symmetrical manner to form extensive complicated structures.
2. If structure is left standing, there is little carry-over the following day.
3. Increased cooperative play in small groups.

SAND

1. More imagination and representation; making of cakes, pies, etc.
2. Increased cooperative play.

WATER PLAY

1. Continues to enjoy playing in colored suds.
2. Shows greater imagination, and increased verbalization during activities.
3. Is manipulative in her experimenting.
4. Continues to place emphasis on the fun rather than the skill.

MUSIC AND RHYTHMS

1. Shows increased vocal control.
2. Can play simple singing games.
3. Is interested in dramatizing songs.
4. Often creates own songs and chants (especially the teasing type of song).
5. Delights in humorous songs, tongue twisters, and ballads.
6. Continues to like "doing that the music says."
7. Continues to enjoy keeping time to music or drum cadence.
8. Shows greater imagination in interpretation of what she hears.
9. Likes to experiment with rhythms and musical instruments.

STORIES

1. Growing interest in stories.
2. Continues to like large, colorful pictures, and only a minimum of words.
3. Will listen to more than one story at a sitting.
4. Is beginning to like the sound of words in rhyme.
5. Delights in humorous stories and nonsense verse.
6. Enjoys repetition of phrases.
7. Likes stories with silly language, and play on words.

DRAMATIC PLAY

1. A marked increase in the enjoyment of, and imagination in dramatic play.
2. Lives in a world unlimited between reality and imagination.

SOCIABILITY

1. Begins to develop real friendships, especially with children of own age, sex.
2. Revels in the joy of possession.
3. Has a tendency to boast and brag, which often gets her into trouble with peers.
4. Is capable of standing up for herself, and will take on a person twice her size with every confidence.
5. Feels independent of her parents.
6. Is less amenable to flattery and encouragement.
7. Talks constantly to anyone who will listen.
8. May create imaginary personalities, or give personalities to objects in her play.
9. Marked differences in interest between boys and girls, making it more difficult for them to play together.
10. Is over-confident of her ability, and may become discouraged at failure.
11. Is more comfortable when limits are set for her behavior.
12. Is always asking "WHY?"

COMMUNICATION

1. Can carry on long and involved conversations.
2. Does an increasingly better job of figuring things out for herself.
3. Things which she relates may be mixed with the real and unreal.
4. Injects into her sentences such words as "oh", "hey", "yes sir."
5. Demands detailed answers to her questions.
6. Likes to be funny. May show off.
7. Uses the word "everything" lavishly. "I know everything."
8. Brags, is bossy and critical.