



Play Development Branch Map

Branch 1	Branch 2	Branch 3	Branch 4	Branch 5	Branch 6	Branch 7	Branch 8	Branch 9
Laughs in response to playful interactions.	Takes part in and enjoys back and forth vocal interactions	Interacts with toys that move, bend, or make a noise.	Starts to engage in functional play - puts a hat on, uses a spoon with a bowl, pushes a car etc	Takes part in solitary play like completing puzzles, building with blocks etc	Sequences actions together – puts people inside a vehicle then pushes it along the floor	Gross motor skills improving so they can enjoy tricycles and throwing games	Can kick a ball towards a target more accurately and understands that some games have a purpose	Play becomes increasingly 'co-operative' with other children who engage with each other as well as with the activity.
Responds to a range of stimuli.	Starts to enjoy peek a boo style games	Plays with items in different ways; pulls, pushes, squeezes, bangs	Explores filling and emptying containers.	More interested in physical play – sliding, swinging, climbing	Plays alongside other children, but not necessarily with them (parallel play)	Begins to take turns with 2-3 other children in play.	Develops 'associate play' - increasing the amount of interaction with other children in play	Peer relationships continue to develop through play and children begin to forge stronger friendships.
	Manipulates and explores materials and objects.	Exploration of cause and effect toys becomes more complex – twisting, turning, on and off		Engages with sorting toys like shape boxes and stacking rings.	Pretend play becomes more abstract – a block can become a phone; a box can be a car etc	Takes part in pretend play that involves others	Children become more interested in the concept of becoming 'friends'	
				Takes part in more 'pretend play' – cooking, feeding the baby, driving the toy car.	Uses construction materials to create their own simple structures and arrangements		Participates in 'group play'- singing and dancing games, art activities etc	

If you have any questions or comments, please email us: customer.service@eyfs.info