

HighScope® Infant-Toddler Key Developmental Indicators (KDIs)

KDIs are the building blocks of thinking, reasoning, and learning at each stage of development.

A. Approaches to Learning

1. **Initiative:** Children express initiative.
2. **Problem solving:** Children solve problems encountered in exploration and play.
3. **Self-help:** Children do things for themselves.

B. Social and Emotional Development

4. **Distinguishing self and others:** Children distinguish themselves from others.
5. **Attachment:** Children form an attachment to a primary caregiver.
6. **Relationships with adults:** Children build relationships with other adults.
7. **Relationships with peers:** Children build relationships with peers.
8. **Emotions:** Children express emotions.
9. **Empathy:** Children show empathy toward the feelings and needs of others.
10. **Playing with others:** Children play with others.
11. **Group participation:** Children participate in group routines.

C. Physical Development and Health

12. **Moving parts of the body:**

Children move parts of the body (turning head, grasping, kicking).

13. **Moving the whole body:**

Children move the whole body (rolling, crawling, cruising, walking, running, balancing).

14. **Moving with objects:** Children move with objects.

15. **Steady beat:** Children feel and experience steady beat.

D. Communication, Language, and Literacy

16. **Listening and responding:** Children listen and respond.

17. **Nonverbal communication:** Children communicate nonverbally.

18. **Two-way communication:** Children participate in two-way communication.

19. **Speaking:** Children speak.

20. **Exploring print:** Children explore picture books and magazines.

21. **Enjoying language:** Children enjoy stories, rhymes, and songs.

E. Cognitive Development

22. Exploring objects:

Children explore objects with their hands, feet, mouth, eyes, ears, and nose.

23. **Object permanence:** Children discover object permanence.

24. Exploring same and different:

Children explore and notice how things are the same or different.

25. **Exploring more:** Children experience "more."

26. **One-to-one correspondence:** Children experience one-to-one correspondence.

27. **Number:** Children experience the number of things.

28. **Locating objects:** Children explore and notice the location of objects.

29. **Filling and emptying:** Children fill and empty, put in and take out.

30. Taking apart and putting together:

Children take things apart and fit them together.

31. Seeing from different viewpoints:

Children observe people and things from various perspectives.

32. **Anticipating events:** Children anticipate familiar events.

33. **Time intervals:** Children notice the beginning and ending of time intervals.

34. **Speed:** Children experience "fast" and "slow."

35. Cause and effect:

Children repeat an action to make something happen again, experience cause and effect.

Creative Arts

36. **Imitating and pretending:** Children imitate and pretend.

37. **Exploring art materials:** Children explore building and art materials.

38. Identifying visual images:

Children respond to and identify pictures and photographs.

39. **Listening to music:** Children listen to music.

40. **Responding to music:** Children respond to music.

41. **Sounds:** Children explore and imitate sounds.

42. **Vocal pitch:** Children explore vocal pitch sounds.

