

# The Whole Child

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## January

### 1. Gross motor skills

Ball skills: Roll a ball to your child and encourage her to bend down, pick it up and throw it back to you. She should be able to do so without losing her balance.

### 2. Fine motor skills

Drawing: Allow your child to scribble on paper. At two the marks will be insignificant but with practice your child will realize that her hand motions determine how the marks look. She will start to make controlled scribbles – circles, lines, dots etc. Only later will she start to name her drawings.

### 3. Visual skills

Shape perception: Let your child feel the edge of a circular shape, then draw a large circle with chalk on the ground or create one with string on the carpet and let her walk around it. Ask her to make a circular shape using her body.

### 4. Auditory skills

Auditory discrimination: Play a kids CD or tape and sing along. Turn the volume louder and softer a few times and talk about the volume with your child.

### 5. Mathematical skills

Counting skills: Teach your child to count to three. Older children can practice counting as far as their age or as far as they can without errors.

### 6. Language skills

Sequence: Frequently ask your child questions like this:

- What have you been doing?
- What are you doing?
- What are you going to do next?

### 7. Faith-building

Prayer: Create a bed-time routine with your little one where she sees you pray to our unseen God. She can pray aloud after your lead if she is able. At this stage you are establishing a daily habit and setting an example for your child.