

# Social Skills Checklist

Does your child have difficulty with:

Yes/No

## 0-6 months

Establishing eye contact (for a few seconds).

Smiling when socially approached.

Laughing in response to play

Calming/settling (cries frequently).

Manipulating and exploring objects.

## 6-12 months

- Establishing eye contact (for a few seconds).
- Smiling when socially approached.
- Laughing in response to play.
- Calming/settling (cries frequently).
- Manipulating and exploring objects.
- Playing peek a boo.
- Clapping when prompted.
- Spontaneously lifting arms to parent.
- Spontaneously extend toys to others.
- Responding to facial expressions.
- Imitating an adult's actions.
- Spontaneously placing a doll with head upright and vertical to the ground.

## 1-2 years

- Establishing eye contact.

- Smiling when socially approached.
- Laughing in response to play.
- Calming/settling (cries frequently).
- Manipulating and exploring objects.
- Clapping when prompted.
- Spontaneously lifting arms to parent.
- Spontaneously extend toys to others.
- Responding to facial expressions.
- Imitating an adult's actions.
- Spontaneously placing a doll with head upright and vertical to the ground.
- Identifying self in mirror.
- Spontaneously looking for hidden objects.
- Role playing simple actions previously seen.
- Imitating a pretend play action (e.g. giving a drink) or demonstrating play related to their body (e.g. sleeping, eating).
- Saying 'hi', 'bye' or 'please'.

## 2-3 years

- Spontaneously looking for hidden objects.
- Role playing simple actions previously seen.
- Imitating a pretend play action (e.g. giving a drink) or demonstrating play related to their body (e.g. sleeping, eating).
- Verbalising their desires/feelings (e.g. 'I want a drink').
- Treating dolls or teddies as if they are alive.
- Playing beside other children.
- Using symbols in play such as a stick becoming a sword (beginning to).
- Engaging in play themes which reflect less frequently experienced life events (e.g. visiting the doctor).

## 3-4 years

- Treating dolls or teddies as if they are alive.

- Playing beside other children.
- Using symbols in their play such as a stick becoming a sword.
- Engaging in play themes which reflect less frequently experienced life events (e.g. visiting the doctor).
- Playing with mechanical toys.
- Taking turns with other children.
- Playing with 2 or 3 children in a group.
- Engaging in play themes which expand beyond personal experience (e.g. fireman rescuing people).
- Talking about their feelings.
- Feeling shame when caught doing the wrong thing.

## 4-5 years

- Playing with mechanical toys.
- Taking turns with other children.
- Playing with 2 or 3 children in a group.
- Engaging in play themes which expand beyond personal experience (e.g. fireman rescuing people).
- Talking about their feelings.
- Feeling shame when caught doing the wrong thing.
- Playing with other children with shared aims within play.
- Playing imaginatively for instance playing in the home-corner, dressing up and cooking.
- Engaging in games with simple rules (e.g. hide and seek).

## 5-6 years

- Playing with other children with shared aims within play.
- Playing imaginatively for instance playing in the home-corner, dressing up and cooking.
- Engaging in games with simple rules (e.g. hide and seek).

- Engaging in play which includes themes never personally experienced (e.g. going to space).
- Negotiating during play.
- Engaging in well-organised play.

## 6-7 years

Engaging in play which includes themes never personally experienced (e.g. going to space).

Negotiating during play.

Engaging in well-organised play.

Playing with small groups and making up their own games with rules.

Playing co-operative games but not usually coping with losing.

Enjoying play with other children of their own sex.

7-8 years      Engaging in play which includes themes never personally experienced (e.g. going to space).

Negotiating during play.

Engaging in well-organised play.

Playing with small groups and making up their own games with rules.

Playing co-operative games (getting better at coping with losing).

Enjoying play with other children of their own sex.

This checklist was designed to serve as a functional screening of developmental skills per age group. It does not constitute an assessment nor reflect strictly standardised research.