



I can hear and remember patterns. My self-esteem is growing.

ABC Music & Me™ LEARNING-AT-A-GLANCE

THIS MONTH'S AREAS OF DEVELOPMENT	YOUR 2-YEAR OLD . . .	YOUR 3-YEAR OLD . . .	IN ABC MUSIC & ME, YOUR CHILD . . .
<p>Self-Esteem Children are always learning; every day they do something for the first time! As they learn new skills, they gain more independence, and this new independence translates into self-esteem. Children love being able to do things all by themselves!</p>	<p>is learning new skills and behaviors, but can still become easily frustrated as he walks a fine line between dependence and independence.</p>	<p>is enjoying the freedom he gains from his growing motor, language, and problem-solving skills. Although his skills and confidence are growing, he will still need your assistance and reassurance, but does have some degree of control and is very eager to please.</p>	<p>will engage in songs, poems, and activities about all the things he can do! He will also have the opportunity to choose his own instruments, demonstrate and practice his gross- and fine-motor skills, and share his own ideas for activities and movements.</p>
<p>Social Interaction As children grow, they must learn to play with others. Sharing and taking turns are difficult lessons to master, but as children spend more time playing together, they begin to recognize each other's feelings and advance from parallel to cooperative play.</p>	<p>likes the company of other children, and will happily engage in parallel play, but is still learning how to play with other children. Play, for her, may still be primarily made up of observing and imitating.</p>	<p>wants to be included! She loves being social with other children, and can sustain cooperative play for short periods of time. She is beginning to show empathy, and understands the concept of sharing, though it is still sometimes difficult.</p>	<p>will have fun doing activities with partners, sharing instruments, talking about friends, and even pretending to visit a friend's house.</p>
<p>Emerging Literacy An environment rich with language, rhymes, songs, stories, pretend play, and books strongly supports a child's love of words and desire to read.</p>	<p>has a growing command of vocabulary, and loves to label things he sees. Stories and books help him put pictures and words into context, and especially with repeated readings, he is beginning to understand that words and pictures represent people, things, activities, and feelings.</p>	<p>understands that a story has a beginning, middle, and end, and is even beginning to be able to tell stories himself. Continued positive interactions with a book and a caring adult can lay the foundation for a love of reading.</p>	<p>will participate in songs and stories, and begin to associate pictures, motions, and actions with written words. The classes' rhythm, rhymes, and vocal play provide a firm foundation for a lifelong love of reading and books.</p>
<p>Recognizing Patterns The world is full of patterns. Learning to recognize patterns means information—language, music, movement, etc.—can be decoded, organized, and remembered more easily. As the brain is trained to see and hear patterns, it becomes better able to make sense of new information.</p>	<p>can see, recognize, and remember simple word-, music-, and movement-patterns.</p>	<p>can copy simple patterns she sees and hears, and is learning to extend those patterns and even create her own.</p>	<p>will learn to recognize and anticipate repeated phrases and patterns in songs, poems, and movement.</p>

FOR MORE READING AT HOME, WE RECOMMEND:

- *All By Myself* by Mercer Mayer, Golden Books, 1985.
- *My Two Hands, My Two Feet* by Rick Walton, G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2000.

FOR MORE LISTENING AT HOME, WE RECOMMEND:

- *Free to Be . . . You and Me*, Arista, 1972.