

# PEDIATRIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

Age and Physical Characteristics	Motor Development	Psychosocial Socialization and Vocalization	Cognitive and Emotional Development
<p><b>Early Adolescence - 12 to 15</b>                      Begins when reproductive organs become functionally operative; ends when physical growth is completed. Skeletal system grows faster than supporting muscles. Large muscles develop more quickly than small muscles. Hands and feet grow proportionately faster than rest of body.</p> <p><u>Girls</u>                      Growth of axillary and perineal hair.                      Appearance of menarche.                      Deepened voice.                      Ovulation.                      Further development of breasts.                      Need for iron and calcium increase dramatically.</p> <p><u>Boys</u>                      Growth of axillary, perineal, facial, and chest hair.                      Deepening of voice.                      Produces spermatozoa.                      Nocturnal emissions.</p>	<p>Often uncoordinated.                      Poor posture.                      Tires easily.</p>	<p>Interest in opposite sex increases.                      Revolts from adult authority.                      Conforms with peer pressure.                      Reworks feelings for parent of opposite sex and unravels the ambivalence toward parent of same sex.                      Affection may turn to an adult outside of the family.                      Uses peer/group dialect-informal language or specially coined terminology.                      Peer groups very important.                      Cliques may develop.                      Dating develops from groups to double dates to single couples.                      "Hangouts" become important centers of activity.                      Begins questioning existing moral values.                      Likes social function, movies, sports, TV, music, telephone.</p>	<p>Great ability to acquire and use knowledge.                      Masters skills of language, writing, reading, math.                      Abstract thinking is sufficient to learn multiple ideas.                      Categorizes thoughts into usable forms.                      May project thinking into the future.                      Capable of highly imaginative thinking.</p>
<p><b>Late Adolescence - 16 to 21</b>                      Growth spurt tapers.</p>	<p>Increased energy.</p>	<p>More mature and inter-dependent relationship with parents.                      Romantic love affairs develop as a basis for mature relationships.                      Balances responsibilities with pleasure.                      Peer group affiliation is not as rigid.                      Likes attending and participating in sports activities.                      Likes beach and recreational activities.                      Likes reading, TV, music, radio, telephone.                      May take a part-time/full-time job.</p>	<p>Likes challenging games like chess and bridge.                      Enjoys working for altruistic causes.                      Begins to plan/work toward future vocation.                      Driver's education.</p>

**References:**

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