

Woburn & North Andover Pediatric Associates

7 Alfred Street, Baldwin Park II, Woburn, MA 01801 - Phone 781-933-6236, Fax 781-938-8050
800 Turnpike Street, North Andover, MA 01845 - Phone 978-557-5712, Fax 978-557-5406



Routine Physical Exam: 5 years

Development

-He/she should:

Hops, skips, jump forward, stands on foot for more than 10 seconds

Hops, skips, swings, climbs, can do a somersault

Walk upstairs without help, walks forward and backward easily

Has self-care skills – dressing/undressing, washing, feeding, is toilet trained

Able to use a fork and spoon, cuts with scissors, hold crayons/markers

- Your child has a rapidly growing vocabulary. He/she should speak clearly using more complex sentences (>5 words), be able to carry a conversation better, tell longer stories and be able to recall part of a story, and use future tense.

- He/she knows colors, ABC's, & shapes. He/she can recognize some letters and may begin to write his/her name.

Your child is now figuring out that they are not the center of everything, and that other people have feelings too. He/she wants to please friends and may be eagerly cooperative, can work through conflicts and better control emotions, knows how to share and take turns.

- Visit: www.HealthyChildren.org, search topics like “Toddler Growth and Development”

Safety

- Children of this age are at high risk for injury due to falls, poisonings, and burns. Their natural curiosity combined with their impulsivity can get them into dangerous situations both inside and outside the home. Injuries often happen because parents aren't aware of their children's abilities to get into things, so close supervision is important!

- Your child must be secured in a car seat for every ride! Children should be in a forward facing car seat with a harness at this age. Seat weight and height requirements should be followed carefully. Children should be in the back seat only.

- Review your home's childproofing. Lock doors to dangerous areas, lock windows, cover outlets, keep at medicines out of reach, and secure cabinets with childproof mechanisms.

- Limit screen time (TV, videogames, computer, iPad, etc.) to less than 1 hour per day.

- Your hot water heater should be set no higher than 120 degrees.

- Kitchens can be especially dangerous at this age, making children susceptible to burns from hot liquids, hot foods, grease, and hot surfaces.

- Your child should play in a fenced yard or playground. Use caution around swimming pools and other water (hot tubs, bathtubs, toilets, buckets of water). Pools should be secured with fence and self-latching gate. Never allow your child to play in the street.

- Always wear protective equipment for activities (bikes, scooters): appropriate sized helmet, wrist/elbow/knee pads.

- Use sunscreen and sunglasses.

- Maintain a smoke-free environment. Children exposed to smokers/second hand smoke are more susceptible to ear infections, breathing problems, and wheezing.

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- Gun safety can be a tough topic to address but it is important. If it is necessary to keep a gun in your home, be sure it is stored unloaded and securely locked. Ammunition should be stored separately and also locked.
- Your child will be able to open any drawer, climb anywhere curiosity leads, and swallow anything he/she finds. Keep all household products and medicines safely capped and out of reach of your child. Keep all products in their original containers. If your child does ingest something poisonous, call the poison control help line immediately! Poison Control 1-800-222-1222
- Visit: www.HealthyChildren.org, search topics like “Infant & Toddler Car Seat Safety”, “Sun and Water Safety”, “Childproofing Your Home”; www.SeatCheck.org

Sleep

- Your child needs up to 10-12 hours of sleep per night.
- With active imaginations, nightmares and night terrors are common. If either becomes common, you should speak to your child’s pediatrician.

Nutrition

- Give three meals per day and offer 2-3 nutritious snacks. Let your child decide what and how much to eat from an assortment of healthy foods. Offer well cooked vegetables, low sugar cereals, yogurt, cheese, whole grain breads, nut butter, lean meats and fish. Encourage your child to be involved with meals by helping to choose and prepare meals with supervision.
- Help your child learn to choose appropriate foods, including plenty of fruits and vegetables. Limit high fat or low nutrient foods & beverages – no soda and limit juice to less than 4-6 oz. per day.
- Continue low fat milk.
- Share family meal time to make meal time pleasant, encourage conversation, and avoid distractions at the dinner table (no TV or mobile devices).
- Encourage at least one hour of physical activity per day. Encourage playing outdoors.
- Brush teeth twice daily with a small amount of toothpaste containing fluoride. Your child should be seeing the dentist for routine visits.
- Vitamin supplements are not routine – talk about them with your pediatrician.
- Visit: www.ChooseMyPlate.gov

Family/Social and Behavior

- Listen and show respect for your child. Serve as a role model for ethical behavior and healthy habits.
- Show affection.
- Establishing routines around bedtime, mealtimes, and playtimes is important.
- Avoid excessive scheduled activities. Free play time is important too!
- Create opportunities for your family to share time together and for family members to talk and play with your toddler. Spend individual time with each child in your family.

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- Begin to teach your child the names of all body parts, including genitals. Discuss privacy and not letting anyone touch or see their private parts. Recognize that a child's sexual curiosity and self-exploration at this age is normal.
- Talk, praise, sing, and read to your child. Building self-esteem is important at this age. Provide encouragement and praise not only for complete a task, but for his/her effort towards the task.
- Teach family rules, respect for authority, and right from wrong. Keep firm rules for behavior and reinforce limits. Suggest acceptable alternatives.
- Begin assigning small chores – making the bed, clearing the table, putting away toys.
- Praise good behaviors.
- Take some time for yourself and spend some individual time with your partner. Seek support and understanding about being a parent from people you trust.

Office Policies

- We like to see infants at regular intervals: 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18 months, 2 years, and then annually thereafter. We schedule 3 months in advance. We try to alternate visits between your child's pediatrician and pediatric nurse practitioners (PNP).
- We follow the recommended vaccine schedule as indicated by the American Academy of Pediatrics & Centers for Disease Control. View vaccine information statements (VIS) at: www.immunize.org/vis
- Please note that many insurance companies require referral authorizations for outpatient appointments, urgent care visits, & other services. It is your responsibility to understand your insurance benefits so you should familiarize yourself with your plan's referral requirement. Please call the Referral Department if you need to request a referral at 781-933-0254.
- Sign up for the Patient Portal to access vaccine history, lab results, and request refills. You may also sign up for text and voice appointment reminders. See a staff member for details!
- Traveling outside of the country in the next few months? Be sure to contact our nurses to determine if your child will need travel vaccines/medications prior to departure.

When should you call for help?

You are concerned that your child is not growing or developing normally

You are worried about your child's behavior

You need more information about how to care for your child, or you have questions or concerns