

ONE & TWO

THE PHASE
WHEN →
AND ONE
EAGER TODDLER

NOBODY'S
ON TIME,
←
EVERYTHING'S A MESS,

↓
WILL INSIST,

"I CAN DO IT."







EXPECT TO BE LATE DURING THIS PHASE.

Maybe you had to wait for your toddler to “do it myself” (just try and stop them). Or maybe they impressively filled a clean diaper just as you got into the car. Whatever the reason, this phase will make even the most punctual adult miss the mark occasionally.

YOU CAN ALSO LOOK FORWARD TO A FEW FASHION STATEMENTS.

Expect a few mismatched outfits, magic marker tattoos, sticker collages, and other various states of creative expression. In this phase, you will choose not only your battles, but also which messes will just have to be tolerated.

THE GREATEST TENSION OF THIS PHASE CAN BE SUMMED UP IN THE PHRASE “I CAN DO IT.”

Their struggle for independence has begun. You feel it the first time they try to feed themselves and dump applesauce down the front of their shirt. Just remember, they’re not only learning new skills, they’re also developing the confidence they need in order to move on to the next phase.

IT'S JUST A
PHASE

SO DON'T
MISS IT



YOUR ROLE IS TO **EMBRACE** THEIR PHYSICAL NEEDS

Life for your toddler is pretty tough. Everything they want to do requires a new skill: from getting dressed to drinking from a cup to using the potty. During this time they are discovering their potential. So when you give encouragement, establish routine, and patiently let them try new experiences, you help them develop confidence.

**THINKS LIKE
AN ARTIST**

You help them learn when you...
ENGAGE THEIR SENSES.

**WANTS TO KNOW,
“AM I ABLE?”**

You capture their heart when you...
DEVELOP THEIR CONFIDENCE

**IS MOTIVATED
BY SAFETY**

You coach their moral abilities when you...
ESTABLISH A ROUTINE.



YOU GIVE YOUR PRESCHOOLER A FIRST IMPRESSION
OF THEIR HEAVENLY FATHER.

When you **EMBRACE** your preschooler's physical needs,
you help them...

**KNOW GOD'S LOVE.
MEET GOD'S FAMILY.**

Practically speaking, that means every week
you have an opportunity to...

**CONNECT WITH A FAITH COMMUNITY.
SING FAITH SONGS LIKE "JESUS LOVES ME."
READ OR RE-ENACT BIBLE STORIES.
REPEAT A SIMPLE MONTHLY IDEA LIKE:**

"God
made me."

"God
loves me."

"Jesus
wants to be
my friend
forever."

You can do these things by taking advantage
of the time you already spend together.

**MORNING
TIME**

SET THE MOOD
FOR THE DAY.

Smile and greet
them with words
of love.

**DRIVE
TIME**

TALK TO YOUR
TODDLER.

Reinforce simple
ideas, and sing
songs as you go.

**BATH
TIME**

WIND DOWN
TOGETHER.

Provide comfort
as the day draws
to a close.

**CUDDLE
TIME**

BE PERSONAL.

Spend one-on-
one time that
communicates
love and affection.



YOUR TODDLER IS CHANGING...

PHYSICALLY

- » Sits, crawls, and walks (12-15 months)
- » Walks backwards and sideways (15-18 months)
- » Scribbles with crayons (15-18 months)
- » Walks up and down stairs; jumps in place (18-24 months)
- » Throws a ball overhead, briefly stands on one foot, and may demonstrate hand preference (24-36 months)

MENTALLY

- » Follows simple instructions
- » Benefits from repetition
- » Unable to take the point of view of other people
- » Doesn't comprehend time; often confuses past, present and future
- » Learning is enhanced through music, movement, and art

VERBALLY

- » Points to objects when you name them (18 months)
- » Says 10-20 words, mostly nouns and pronouns (18 months)
- » Says 40-50 words and forms two word sentences (24 months)
- » Says 300-400 words that may be difficult to understand (36 months)
- » Still understands more than they can communicate

EMOTIONALLY

- » Enjoys role-play activities
- » Has trouble sharing and displays separation anxiety
- » May begin to bite, scream, and throw tantrums
- » Plays next to, rather than with, playmates
- » Recognizes basic emotions in others

PHASE:

A TIMEFRAME

IN A KID'S LIFE WHEN YOU CAN

LEVERAGE

DISTINCTIVE OPPORTUNITIES TO INFLUENCE

THEIR FUTURE



YOU HAVE 884 WEEKS AND COUNTING...

.....
IT'S JUST A
PHASE
SO DON'T MISS IT
.....



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