

The preschool child (4-6 years old)

Children come from various familial and cultural backgrounds and have different experiences and personalities. However, children of this age do share some common characteristics.



I learn
about my
child

In the motor sector,

- They may appear to have high mobility and energy for small periods of time and to calm down for longer periods.
- Gradually muscles mature and children can have a better control over their hands and legs.
- They acquire their sense of rhythm and they like activities such as clapping their hands into the rhythm of the music, walking in big, open steps or jumping around.
- They do not yet have full coordination of their eyes and hands.
- They learn to whistle and wink.

Socially and emotionally, it is possible for children of this age,

- To have a vivid and creative imagination.
- To prefer immediate results and not long-term goals or promises.
- To find difficulty in understanding and remembering rules (this is why they often need to be reminded of things).
- To often change their minds.
- To be very curious and show it by asking questions or trying to do things on their own.
- To enjoy participating in 'grown-ups' activities (e.g. cooking, repairing etc)
- To cooperate with other children, but to fight as well.
- To delay in finishing off the 'jobs' or duties that they have undertaken, especially if these have been assigned to them by adults.





In the linguistic sector, you may observe that they like

- To talk and narrate their own stories.
- To learn new words (e.g. dinosaur names!).
- To tell jokes.
- To make up their own words and laugh.
- To make a lot of questions.
- To 'write' in whichever way they can (letters, drawings, their own 'symbols').
- To enjoy those games where they have to guess the answer or solve a riddle.
- To browse through a fairytale or a story and pretend that they 'read'.

Moreover, children of this age seem to:

- Prefer to follow a consistent timetable ('routine') during the day.
- Enjoy playing freely for long periods of time.
- Want to feel the affection of their familiar people.
- Want to eat, dress and go to the toilet on their own.
- Need the acceptance and praise of the adults.
- Need reasonable limits and fair rules which are applied consistently and with love.



Programme Implementation

**POLYDROMO: Group and Group and Periodical
for Bilingualism and Multiculturalism in
Education and Society**



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With the kind support of

