



**Ages & Stages
Of The Elementary Student
Ages 6-12**

Ages & Stages Of The Elementary Student

Physical Development:

Ages 6-7:

- has incomplete muscle control and coordination are incomplete
- can bounce a ball 4-6 times; throws and catches
- can skate
- can ride a bicycle
- can tie shoelaces
- skips with both feet
- dresses him/herself without assistance
- learns sports skills like batting a ball or kicking a soccer ball
-

Age 8:

- has more control over small muscles; writes and draws with more skill

Other Physical Developments for Ages 6-8

- has slower but steady growth
- develops darker hair color as he/she gets closer to puberty
- can recognize differences between boys and girls
- finds difficulty balancing high energy activities and quiet activities
- becomes tired with intense activity
- has rapidly developing small muscles; children will now enjoy playing musical instruments, hammering, or building things
- permanent teeth come in as baby teeth come out
- can draw, paint, cut and manipulate things with greater confidence and accuracy than before

Ages & Stages Of The Elementary Student

Social and Emotional Development:

Age 6:

- craves affection from parents and teachers
- has some minor difficulties with friendships and working out problems with peers
- begins to see things from another's point of view; may reason with the child and teach empathy

Age 7:

- will work cooperatively with a partner or small group
- understands difference between right and wrong

Age 8:

- likes to belong to informal "clubs" formed by peers
- is concerned about rules; fair vs. unfair
- cares for his/herself, room and belongings
- knows right from wrong
- will work cooperatively and productively in small groups
- builds stronger friendships
- is helpful, cheerful, and pleasant as well as rude, bossy, selfish, and impatient

Social and Emotional Development: Ages 6-8, cont:

Other Social and Emotional Developments for Ages 6-8:

- develops confidence in all areas of interest, including friends, schoolwork, and sports
- has signs of growing independence; testing their knowledge with back talk and rebellion
- becomes more modest and wants privacy
- can talk about thoughts and feelings
- focuses less on self and shows more concern for others
- has common fears including: the unknown, failure, death, family problems, and rejection
- has friendships commonly in the same neighborhood and of the same sex
- acts nurturing and commanding with younger children
- will follow and depend on older children
- has fewer angry outbursts; is better at controlling or concealing feelings
- is more able to endure frustration of delays when getting something he/she "wants"
- attracts adult attention with tattling
- has fears of monsters and the dark
- has "good" and "bad" days defined by family perspective
- is attached to adults other than their parents; will quote the new "hero" or try to please him/her to gain attention
- has beginning awareness of the future
- desires to be liked and accepted by friends
- is emotionally sensitive to criticism from adults

Ages & Stages Of The Elementary Student

Mental Development:

Age 6:

- can count up to 100
- can print first name, numbers up to 10 and a few letters
- knows right from left
- can draw a person with six body parts
- relates experiences in greater detail and in a logical way
- is able to plan ahead
- writes words with letter-combination patterns such as words with a silent e
- can read and write high-frequency words such as where and every
- writes complete sentences with correct capitalization and punctuation
- reads aloud grade-level books with accuracy and understanding
- can count change
- uses technology to reinforce skills learned in the classroom

Age 7:

- is able to tell time to the hour and half-hour
- can quickly answer addition and subtraction facts for sums up to 20
- can complete two-digit addition and subtraction problems without regrouping
- begins to reason and concentrate
- improves his/her ability to process information
- makes connections between concepts to be able to compare and contrast ideas
- expands his/her vocabulary
- reads fluently with expression
- begins to use a dictionary
- can add single and multi-digit numbers with regrouping
- will know the keys on the left and right side of a keyboard

Age 8:

- is able to tell time to the quarter-hour
- knows the concept of multiplication
- can read for pleasure
- performs at grade level in all subjects
- has a sense of humor
- begins to think about own behavior and see consequences for actions
- becomes more organized and logical in his/her thinking process
- can copy from a chalkboard
- can multiply single-digit numbers
- practices typing using the home keys and space bar

Ages & Stages Of The Elementary Student

Other Mental Developments for Ages 6-8:

- can group things that belong together
- has rapid development of mental skills
- can explain situations by thinking back on their actions and tracing back events that happened
- has difficulty remaining still for an activity lasting longer than 15-20 minutes.
- begins many projects but may finish few
- learns best with active learning; being hands-on

Ages & Stages Of The Elementary Student

Ages & Stages Ages 9-12

Physical Development:

Age 9:

- can build a model
- can learn to sew

Age 10:

- has more control over small muscles; writes and draws with more skill
- can catch a fly ball

Age 12:

- is preoccupied with their appearance; may try to change through dieting
- may develop anorexia or bulimia, especially in females
- may attempt the use of supplements or steroids for body building (males)
- is energetic and enthusiastic
- has reasonable athletic ability; drama, artistic, or musical talents appear at this time as well

Other Physical Developments for Ages 9-12:

- has changes in the texture and appearance of skin becoming more adult-like
- becomes nearly as coordinated as adults
- has growth spurts
- has body changes indicating approaching puberty
- reaches eye maturity in both size and function
- has eye –tension potentially occurring due to smaller print, computer use and intense writing
- generally, females tend to be physically and psychologically ahead of males at this stage of development

Ages & Stages Of The Elementary Student

Social and Emotional Development:

Age 9:

- is more influenced by peer pressure as friends are very important
- prefers immediate rewards for behavior
- wants to be part of a group
- has empathy
- has a strong sense of responsibility
- has a greater awareness for fairness

Age 10:

- has informally chosen the leader of their peer group
- likes to belong to informal “clubs” formed by peers
- is very social
- is concerned about rules; fair vs. unfair
- cares for his/herself, room and belongings
- can take responsibility for home chores

Age 11:

- can be generally truthful and dependable
- has increasing independence

Age 12:

- focuses on social life, friends, and school
- continues friendships with members of the same sex
- has parent-substitute and confidant in best friends
- changes friendships abruptly
- believes in self and his/her ability to do well
- has self-confidence, sense of pride and competence
- recognizes the need for rules and fair play
- is generally cooperative and considerate; can be inconsistent and unpredictable at times

Ages & Stages Of The Elementary Student

Other Social and Emotional Developments for Ages 9-12

- shows signs of growing independence; testing their knowledge with back talk and rebellion
- has common fears including: the unknown, failure, death, family problems, and rejection
- has fears of school or disasters replacing fears of monsters and the dark
- has confusion over social relationships
- defines themselves in terms of appearance, possessions and activities
- is more able to endure frustration of delays when getting something he/s/he “wants”
- resolves conflict through peers who accept or reject their actions
- is self-conscious; feels as though everyone notices small differences
- has feelings that are easily hurt
- has frequent mood swings
- does not know how to deal with failure
- experiences more peer pressure
- is competitive in their relationships with friends

Mental Development:

Age 9:

- is able to write neatly in cursive due to developed small muscles in the hands
- reads longer stories and chapter books with expression and comprehension
- uses prefixes, suffixes and root words to identify unfamiliar words
- can multiply single and multi-digit numbers
- tells time to the half-hour, quarter-hour and to five minutes and one minute
- thinks independently and critically
- is able to memorize and recite facts; may not have deep understanding of facts
- increases amount of detail in drawings
- uses prediction, connections, and inference when drawing meaning from text
- understands cause and effect relationships

Ages & Stages Of The Elementary Student

Mental Development: Ages 9-12, cont:

Age 9:

- can divide multi-digit number by one-digit numbers
- can find the area of two-dimensional shapes
- uses the Internet for research
- types 15 words per minute on average

Age 10:

- can read for pleasure
- has a sense of humor
- works on research projects
- writes a structured paragraph with introductory sentence, supporting details and a closing sentence
- adds and subtracts decimals, and compare decimals and fractions
- can multiply multi-digit number by two-digit numbers
- discusses common uses of technology in daily life; explain advantages and disadvantages
- types 20 words per minute on average

Age 11:

- has improved problem-solving skills
- has more advanced listening and responding skills
- enjoys organizing and classifying objects and ideas
- reads and concentrates for longer periods of time
- reads complex text with fluency and comprehension
- uses the features of a book to find information: the index, glossary, and appendix
- uses problem-solving strategies to solve real world math problems
- can identify and describe three-dimensional shapes
- uses long division to divide large numbers by multi-digit numbers
- can demonstrate advanced keyboarding skills to edit work

Age 12:

- research a topic using a variety of sources
- identify conflict, climax, and resolution in a story
- write an organized, themed, multi-paragraph composition in sequential order
- add and subtract fractions and decimals
- find the volume and surface area of three-dimensional shapes
- performs at or near grade-level ability
- masters sequencing and ordering which are needed for math skills

Ages & Stages Of The Elementary Student

Other Mental Developments for Ages 9-12

- has an attention span of 30-45 minutes in length
- focuses more on completion of projects
- can focus attention and take time to search for needed information
- can develop a plan to meet a goal
- has greater memory capability because many routines are automatic
- begins to build a self-image as a “worker”
- wants to find ways to earn money

Ages & Stages Of The Elementary Student

References

Growth Milestones – 6 Years; ©KidsGrowth compiled with material from The American Academy of Pediatrics' Guidelines for Health Supervision and Bright Futures' Guidelines for Health Supervision of Infants, Children, and Adolescents. Bright Futures is supported by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; <http://www.kidsgrowth.com/resources/articledetail.cfm?id=1135>

Growth Milestones – 8 years; ©KidsGrowth compiled with material from The American Academy of Pediatrics' Guidelines for Health Supervision and Bright Futures' Guidelines for Health Supervision of Infants, Children, and Adolescents. Bright Futures is supported by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; <http://www.kidsgrowth.com/resources/articledetail.cfm?id=1136>

Growth Milestones – 10 years; ©KidsGrowth compiled with material from The American Academy of Pediatrics' Guidelines for Health Supervision and Bright Futures' Guidelines for Health Supervision of Infants, Children, and Adolescents. Bright Futures is supported by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; <http://www.kidsgrowth.com/resources/articledetail.cfm?id=1129>

Growth Milestones – 12 years; ©KidsGrowth compiled with material from The American Academy of Pediatrics' Guidelines for Health Supervision and Bright Futures' Guidelines for Health Supervision of Infants, Children, and Adolescents. Bright Futures is supported by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; <http://www.kidsgrowth.com/resources/articledetail.cfm?id=1130>

Child Development: Middle Childhood (6-8 years old), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Adapted with permission from [Bright Futures](#): Green M, Palfrey JS, editors. Bright Futures Family Tip Sheets: Middle childhood. Arlington (VA): National Center for Education in Maternal and Child Health; 2001; <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/child/middlechildhood.htm>

Child Development: Middle Childhood (9-11 years old), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Adapted with permission from [Bright Futures](#): Green M, Palfrey JS, editors. Bright Futures Family Tip Sheets: Middle childhood. Arlington (VA): National Center for Education in Maternal and Child Health; 2001; <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/child/middlechildhood9-11.htm>

Childhood Years: Ages six through twelve; North Carolina At&T State University Cooperative Extension; <http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/fcs/pdfs/fcs465.pdf>

Kindergarten through fifth grade: What your child should know; © GreatSchool Inc.; <http://www.greatschools.org/students/academic-skills/K-5-benchmarks.gs?content=531>

Growth and Development, Ages 6-8; Advocates For Youth © 2008; http://www.education.com/reference/article/Ref_Growth_Ages_Six/