30 - 50 months You might notice that....

Speaking

- I am beginning to use longer sentences with words like "because" and "and" like "I cried, I did, because I banged my foot"
- I can tell you about something that happened yesterday, like "remember when we went to the park and had a green apple and came home".
- I ask lots of questions and answer your questions too.
- I can talk about what we are doing now, and what might happen later or tomorrow.
- When I talk to you, sometimes I talk like a grown up to make myself clear, like "I really, really need the toilet now".
- I can use lots of words about things that interest me, like "diplodocus" and "brontosaurus" and I like to learn lots of new words.
- I pretend about things when I am playing, like using my coat on my head "this is my magic flying cape".



Notes		

Literacy	Mathematics	Understanding the World	Expressive Arts and Design
 Reading I like singing nursery rhymes and songs. I can join in with rhymes and I recognise when words start the same, like 'big boat' and 'tall tower'. I can clap my hands to match the sounds in words, like 2 claps for "he-llo". I can listen and join in when we read books and sing rhymes. I can join in with my favourite stories and guess what will happen next. I know that stories have beginnings and endings and sometimes I guess how the story will end. I can listen to longer stories and talk about them. I can talk about the places and people in stories and the important things that are happening. I like to look at the pictures and words in books. I can show you words when we are outdoors. I can recognise my own name and words that are special to me, like "mummy" and my favourite shops and foods. I hold the book the right way up and turn the pages carefully when I look at it on my own. I know that books can tell me things like the names of cars I am interested in. I know that the words in the book tell me things and where the words start on the page. 	 Numbers I can use some number names and words like "more than" and "fewer than", when I am playing. I can say numbers in order from 1 to 10. I know that numbers tell me how many things there are altogether, like 8 biscuits on a plate. I use my fingers, pictures or marks to show you how many things there are. Sometimes I can match a numeral to the right number of things, like "3" to three balls. I am interested in numbers and I talk about them and ask you questions. I know when there are the same number of things, like 2 cakes, one for you and one for me. I show I am interested in playing with numbers when I share things out in different ways, like putting my 10 farm animals in 2 fields and then in 3 fields and I am beginning to know there are still 10 animals. I talk about the numbers I see when we are outdoors. I am interested in making marks and calling them numbers. I know that I can count claps and jumps as well as things like apples and buses and dinosaurs. 	People and communities I am interested in the grown ups I know and talk about where they live and what they do. I can remember times that are special to me and talk about them, like the first day I got my scooter. I can talk about people and times that are special to me and my family and friends, like "remember the party when we had fireworks and big bangs". I am interested in the different jobs that grown ups do, like fire fighters and doctors. I know that I am special and some things that I do are the same as my friends and some things are different. I might say things like "I don't eat meat" and "I go to the same swimming pool as my friends". The world I can talk about my home and the places that I know like the park, the shops and the library. Sometimes I ask questions about the animals and trees I see. I can talk about plants and animals that interest me, like next door's dog that barks and the really tall tree in the park. I talk about why things happen and how things work, like "where does all the bathwater go when it goes down the plughole?" I am beginning to notice changes in things, when bananas turn black when they stay in the bowl for too long or the flowers in the park getting bigger. I know that we have to be careful with animals and plants and remember not to pick the flowers or to stroke the cat gently.	Exploring and using media and materials I like joining in with dancing and ring games. I can sing some familiar songs. I am beginning to move with rhythm, especially when I hear music I like. I can tap out simple repeated rhythms, especially to songs and rhymes I like. I can make lots of noises with different things, like banging a spoon on my plate or popping bubble wrap. I can mix paints together to make new colours. I know that I can join up lines on paper to make different shapes and I use these shapes to make things I know, like a face or a door. I like to find out more and talk about things that feel different, like the soft duvet cover or the shiny saucepan. I can use all sorts of building toys and empty cardboard boxes to make things. I make lines and piles of blocks, joining the pieces together to make things like houses and car parks. I know that I can use tools like scissors, spoons and hammers to do different things.

Writing

- Sometimes I can tell you about my drawings and paintings and what my writing means.
- When I see your writing, I tell you what I think it means, like the shopping list says "beans and chips and ice cream".
- I can make the lines and marks that I want with a pencil.
- When you write my name, I can copy some of the letters by myself on my piece of paper.

Shape, space and measure

- I like lining up shapes and fitting shapes and different things into boxes.
- I see shapes when we are outdoors, like square windows and triangle and circle shapes in road signs.
- I can use words like "under", and "next to" to describe where things are.
- I choose to play with different sorts of building sets and talk about what I am making.
- When I am doing puzzles, I look at the missing shapes to see what could fit.
- I am beginning to use words like "round" and "straight" when I talk about the shapes I see.

Technology

- I know how to operate simple equipment. I can turns on the DVD player and use remote controls.
- I like toys with knobs and touch screens and real objects like cameras or mobile phones.
- I can make toys move or the sound or picture images on toys work by pressing switches or touching the screen.
- I know that I can find out things that interest me from the computer, mobile phone or tablet.

Being imaginative

- I am beginning to like some things more than others and sometimes I might like painting and drawing more than dancing or singing.
- I move around in different ways when I am happy or excited, sometimes I dance and jump up and down when I hear music.
- I sing to myself and I change songs I know to make up my own songs and rhythms.
- I notice the things that you do, like cooking and cleaning and I pretend to do the same.
- When something special has happened to me, I pretend play it happening, like feeding the new baby or my first swimming lesson.
- When I am playing with my toys, I make up stories like superheroes rescuing people from a building or animals eating grass.
- I use ordinary things and pretend they are something else, like a spoon is a fire hose and my bricks are fish fingers and chips.
- When we have done something exciting, I like to draw or paint a picture or make up a dance or song/rhyme.

Notes			

30 - 50 months: How can you help me with my learning?

Communication and Language

Listening and attention

- Play listening games with me like "Simon Says...." Where I have to copy an action or "Ready, Steady, Go" where I have to wait to push the ball or car.
- Make up silly sentences with me where each word begins with the same sound as at the start of my name.

Speaking

• Talk to me about things we did or places that we went to yesterday.

Understanding

- When I'm helping you to make the lunch, ask
 me questions like "What do I need to cut the
 apple?" or "What do I need to pour your milk /
 water into?" so that I can find you the thing we
 need.
- When we're tidying up give me simple instructions like "Put your shoes in the basket" or "Put the remote control on the sofa."

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Making relationships

• Let me build things with my friends using big cardboard boxes and pieces of fabric.

Self confidence and self awareness

• Let me help you match the socks together.

Managing feelings and behaviour

- Let me dress up and pretend to be a nurse, doctor, firefighter, mum or dad.
- Explain to me why I cannot do things like run around the supermarket.



Physical Development

Moving and handling

- Let me practice using children's scissors to cut dough, cooked spaghetti or paper.
- Make an obstacle course in the park or garden where I have to run around benches or chairs, crawl under a blanket and crawl through a cardboard box.

Health and self care

Make sure I brush my teeth twice a day.

Mathematics

Numbers

- Make a train shed with numbers on so that I can match my trains into the shed with the same number on.
- Put numbers on a skittles game made from plastic bottles. Ask me what number was on the bottle I knocked down.

Shape, space and measure

- Let me build from cardboard boxes or wooden bricks. Use words like "long" or "tall" to describe my model.
- Go on a shape walk inside or outside to find things which are the same like "circles" or "spheres".

Understanding the World

People and communities

• Take me out to different places where we live, like the fire station or the library.

The world

- Let me explore mud, rain or snow.
- Plant seeds with me in a pot or in the garden.

Technology

• Let me press buttons, like on the pelican crossing or the doorbell at our friend's house, to see what happens.

Expressive Arts and Design

Exploring and using media and materials

• Let me use my paints to mix up my own colours.

Being imaginative

- Help me to use some of my toys to make up a story.
- Give me pieces of material to make a cape or a big cardboard box to make a spaceship when I'm pretending to be somebody else or going on an adventure.

Literacy

Reading

- Read signs to me when we are out and about.
- Let me read and share my books with you.
- Let me choose my own books when we go to the library.
- Set up a pretend shop where I can read the labels on the packets and boxes.
- Read a recipe to me as we're making dough.
- Borrow a story sack from nursery for us to investigate, read, and make up stories.

Writing

- Tell me what you're writing as you write a shopping list.
- Make a name card for my bedroom door or a placemat with my name on. Let me use these to help me try to write my name by myself.

Resources to help:

www.booktrust.org.uk/resources, www.thecommunicationtrust.org.uk www.literacytrust.org.uk/early_years, www.readongeton.org.uk

