

Developmental Milestones for Kindergarten Ages 5-6

Information from Responsive Classroom Website:

<https://www.responsiveclassroom.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Yardsticks-for-Elementary-School.pdf>

Common Developmental Traits by Age

(Adapted from *Yardsticks: Children in the Classroom Ages 4–14*, 3rd edition, by Chip Wood, CRS, 2007)

Age	Physical	Language/Cognitive	Social/Emotional
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Still awkward with small motor activities Able to see close objects best Need physical activity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See one way to do things Imaginative; don't always distinguish real from imaginary Literal—raining cats and dogs means animals falling from sky Learn through direct experience Concise; use few words in response to questions Concrete, sequential problem-solving Think out loud before acting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek attachment and approval; want to “do it right” Later in year might test adult authority Appreciate boundaries Good at partner and solo work
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energetic In a hurry Rapid growth Noisy and active Tire easily 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very talkative; love new ideas/ asking questions Love “work” but sometimes take on too much Begin to conceptualize past/ present and cause/effect 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enthusiastic, energetic, competitive Rush to be first or dawdle to be last Seek friends Easily upset when criticized or discouraged Challenge boundaries and authority Work well in small groups