

# Characteristics of a Toddler

Learns through play

Has an interest span  
of two to four minutes

Has short memory

Plays alone or alongside another child

Has little endurance and tires easily

Experiences pain of separation from  
parents with varying intensity

Experiences mood swings

Explores with bursts of energy

Explodes with frustration

Delays or straggles with  
little or no sense of time

Experiences meltdowns when hitting a crisis

Asserts independence by defying  
or resisting your control

Shows fear and anxiety  
in some situations

