

Developing Independent Living Skills

Age 2

Caregivers can help children develop independent living skills at any age. Self-care, home, and community living skills can be graded and adapted to meet your child's specific needs and ability level. The following chart describes activities that your child should be able to do at their developmental age level.

Dressing Skills

Takes off socks

Takes off shoes

Takes off elastic pants or shorts

Takes off underwear

Hygiene and Grooming Skills

Tolerates haircuts/trims

Maintains a safe body position while bathing or showering

Feeding Skills

Eats all textures of table food (pureed, soft, chewy, crunchy)

Eats mixed textured foods (casseroles, fruit and yogurt)

Eats foods from all food groups

Finger feeds self

Scoops with a spoon or fork and brings to mouth

Uses spoon well

Uses fork well

Drinks from a regular cup well

Can use a straw for drinking well

Gets onto and off of kitchen chairs safely

Toileting Skills

Indicates when wet/soiled

Maintains safe body position while toileting

Other Functional Mobility Skills

Gets into and out of bed safely

Gets on/off of soft furniture safely

(living room chair, couch)

Obtains all items for leisure or play

Accesses floor (gets onto and off of ground safely)

Transports items for personal use in the home

Housework/Chores

Picks up belongings or toys with adult assistance

Safety Skills

Notifies adult when injured or hurt