

Goal Cards for Daily Routines at Home

C: Communication Goals

A: Academic Goals

M: Motor Goals

P: Play Goals

S: Social Goals

Going to the Grocery Store	
Communication	Child requests preferred food item in the store by signing, vocalizing, or pointing; caregiver presents a choice by holding up two items, child points or verbally indicates his choice; caregiver may also teach yes/no response by saying "do you want this?" and prompting child to indicate yes/no either verbally or by shaking his head
Academic	Caregiver prompts child to label or point to particular foods or colors ("where's the tomato?" "find the red one?"); caregiver counts a small number of items in cart with the child; caregiver talks about and discusses features of foods and packages (cold, sweet, big, little, square, box, can)
Motor	Child helps take items from shelf and place them in grocery cart; child holds and plays with items brought from home while riding in the shopping cart
Play	Child pretends to feed food item to doll/stuffed animal brought from home
Social	With prompting from caregiver, child waves to people or objects in the store; says or signs "hello" and "goodbye" to other shoppers, clerks

Brushing Teeth	
Communication	Caregiver prompts child to request toothbrush, toothpaste, water; child is prompted to request "help me," and indicate "all done" when finished
Academic	Child labels or points to objects in the bathroom (shower, sink, towel, etc.), caregiver narrates process of toothbrushing or provides sequenced picture cards to help illustrate the steps; caregiver counts to 20 while helping brush
Motor	Child helps to squeeze toothpaste on brush, turns on/off water, brushes teeth
Play	Caregiver pretends toothbrush is a train, car, or spaceship; before brushing the child's teeth, parent and child pretend to brush doll or stuffed animal's teeth; caregiver sings song while toothbrushing (e.g., "this is the way we brush our teeth")
Social	Child hands toothpaste to caregiver when finished; caregiver helps child label/point to caregiver in mirror

Getting Dressed	
Communication	Child chooses desired clothing by signing, vocalizing, or pointing; child makes a choice between two presented options by pointing
Academic	Child points to or labels clothing items and colors (socks, pants, shirt, dress, sweater); caregiver discusses weather and clothing choices ("you're wearing shorts today because it's hot and sunny"); caregiver counts buttons, or labels pictures on clothing; caregiver narrates process of getting dressed or provides sequenced picture cards to help illustrate the steps
Motor	Child puts legs through pants/skirt and puts arms through shirt/dress (with support, as necessary); child pulls up pants (with caregiver hands over top of child's hands, if needed)
Play	Caregiver dresses stuffed animal in clothes or pajamas before beginning the dressing routine; caregiver narrates (e.g., "bear is getting dressed so he can go to the store," "it's time for doggie to put pajamas on so he can go to bed")
Social	Caregiver uses clothing items in unusual or silly ways, such as making a shirt into a cape, bib, or blanket, or placing child's socks on head for a hat; caregiver plays peek-a-boo with child behind clothing item

Playing in the Backyard	
Communication	Child chooses desired toy or activity and requests item or activity through pointing, verbalizing or signing; while child is playing, caregiver stops the activity repeatedly (e.g., holds the swing, stops him from using the shovel) to create multiple requesting opportunities; caregiver may also teach yes/no response by saying "do you want this?" (holding up a shovel) and prompting child to indicate yes/no either verbally or by shaking his head
Academic	Caregiver asks child to identify items in the backyard (grass, tree, dog, green grass, blue sky, airplane, flower); child may use sign language, vocalizations, or pointing along with caregiver prompts
Motor	Child runs, climbs, practices pumping legs on swing (with help from caregiver), and/or digs in sand box with shovel
Play	Child uses natural items like sticks, rocks, leaves, and dirt to engage in imaginative play (e.g., covers doll with a leaf "blanket"); child pushes toy animals down slide or on swing; child builds with sticks, rocks or sand
Social	Child interacts with caregiver (plays peek-a-boo behind tree), caregiver and child chase, tickle

Playing with Pots and Pans	
Communication	Caregiver prompts child to request "open" for cupboard and request a spoon/spatula to bang with; child makes a choice between two presented options (two pans or two spoons) by pointing; caregiver prompts child to sign/say "all done" when finished
Academic	Child labels or points to pan/spoon; caregiver counts while child is banging; caregiver uses comparative terms to describe the activity ("big/little pot", "loud/quiet banging"); child and caregiver practice with different surfaces to achieve different sounds (large pan, small pan, floor); caregiver narrates child's behavior ("you're banging on the drum", "we're marching in a band")
Motor	Child holds spoon and bangs on the over-turned pan; child marches
Play	Caregiver helps child try new combinations of utensils and pans; caregiver and child pretend to be in a band, marching together while banging; caregiver sings children songs while banging or marching (e.g., "The Ants go Marching one-by-one")
S	Child and caregiver take turns imitating one another (e.g., caregiver chooses and bangs with the same spoon as the child); sharing ("my turn/your turn"); caregiver encourages fill-ins: "ready, set, (go)" as they begin banging
Social	

Waiting for an Appointment	
Communication	Child makes a choice between two presented play activity options while in the waiting area (e.g., book or puzzle), the caregiver may which to bring several special items from home in case the waiting areas does not contain interesting materials; caregiver prompts child to say or sign "all done" when finished with toy or activity
Academic	Caregiver counts items in the waiting room (chairs, people, posters) aloud with the child, child is prompted to point to pictures in a book or magazine as the caregiver labels it
Motor	Child turns pages of a book, builds with blocks, or uses fine motor skills to complete a puzzle; if one is available, child practices making a finger point to swipe on a device with a touch screen
Play	Child plays with blocks, bead toy, or other children's toys in the waiting room
Social	Waves "hello" and "bye" to receptionists/doctors/ nurses (with help, as needed); plays peek-a-boo with caregiver; fills-in words in children's songs; caregiver points and labels items in the waiting room (chair, book) to elicit joint attention; caregiver narrates play

	Helping with Cooking
Communication	Caregiver offers choice options: "Do you want to(stir, wash, pour)?"; child requests food or materials and is prompted to say "all done" when finished; child identifies by pointing or verbally labels kitchen items with help from caregiver: "oven," "sink," "bowl," "open," "milk", etc.
Academic	Caregiver talks about colors and textures of food; caregiver counts while pouring or stirring; draws letters or shapes in batter; caregiver may use pictures to depict the steps in food preparation
Motor	Child pours, stirs, washes, presses, or shapes food item; child uses children's knife to cut food
Play	Child pretends to feed a baby doll or stuffed animal with help from caregiver; caregiver pretends spoon is an airplane "crash-landing" in the cookie dough; caregiver and child sing songs while cooking/stirring ("This is the way we stir the dough; Pat-a-cake)"
Social	Child hands utensils or food items to caregiver, child and caregiver take turns stirring, pouring

Helping with Picking Up	
Communication	Caregiver provides choices about which item to put away ("which one do you want to put away first?"); caregiver labels locations as child helps clean ("that's right, the train goes in the basket")
Academic	Caregiver counts toys as they are put away; caregiver helps child follows directions ("put the blocks in the RED bin"); child matches/sorts items together (cars, blocks, books in separate locations); caregiver may wish to add picture cues to help the child know where to place items (e.g., a picture of the blocks is on the block bin)
Motor	Child picks up toys or other items, bending, reaching, crawling; caregiver can promote varied motor patterns, "let's hop to the closet with the block", "crawl with the ball to the toybox")
Play	Caregiver uses a puppet or stuffed animal to help pick up toys; child and caregiver sing clean up song while picking up
	Caregiver uses turn-taking during clean-up ("mommy puts a train in the box, Jake puts a train in the box")
Social	

Drawing or Coloring	
Communication	Child requests paper, marker or other item by pointing or verbalizing (caregiver withholds item until child requests, and prompts the response, as needed)
Academic	Child labels color of crayons/markers; caregiver writes child's name on paper and narrates letters in name
Motor	Child holds crayons/pencil to draw or scribble (may still use fist grip); child pulls off marker cap and puts marker cap on, with help, as needed; child uses second hand to stabilize paper
Play	Child imitates a simple drawing with support (line across, circle motion); child folds completed picture and places in envelope to put in mailbox, caregiver narrates "we're writing a letter to, let's put it in the envelope")
Social	Child is supported to show picture to a caregiver/sibling (caregiver narrates, "look what I made"); child takes turns sharing crayons or paper; accepts hand being prompted by caregiver

Reading a Book/Magazine	
Communication	Child chooses book or magazine when two options are presented, child labels or points to items in the book (may be prompted by caregiver)
Academic	Caregiver asks child to point to, sign or verbalize colors, shapes, or names of objects/animals in a book or magazine, the caregiver prompts response, as needed
Motor	Child turns pages of book
Play	Child acts out portions of story prompted by caregiver ("let's pretend we're sleeping like the cat in the picture")
Social	Child completes fill-ins, "Time to read a (book)!", "All (done)!", "The (end)!"; caregiver promotes joint attention by pointing to pictures and helping child follow with his/her gaze

Bath Time	
Communication	Caregiver provides opportunities for the child to make requests (water "on/off", "duck", "pour", "yes/no"); child chooses bath toy when two options are presented
Academic	Caregiver helps child to count or sort bath toys/objects, draw or scribble with bath crayons, or identify colors or letters with bath alphabet; caregiver practices body parts (hands, head, nose, tummy) while washing
Motor	Child scoops and pours water, pretends to swim in the water, catches floating toys
Play	Child washes a baby doll or makes a duck swim in the water; caregiver narrates play ("the duck is diving in the water!")
Social	Child plays peek-a-boo with caregiver using the washcloth; child participates in game: "ready, set,(go)" (then pours water out of a cup or drops a toy in the water to make a splash); child fills in words in songs (e.g., "this is the way we wash our (tummy)")

Riding in the Car	
Communication	Child verbalizes, signs or points to indicate music on/off, window up/down; caregiver can create multiple opportunities by stopping music to elicit another request; caregiver prompts "all done" when removing seat belt
Academic	Caregiver provides a picture to indicate destination before child enters the car; caregiver labels objects in the environment while driving (red car, yellow house, big truck, moon); caregiver uses window colorforms/decals that are changed regularly, caregiver talks about current colorform while driving
Motor	Caregiver prompts child to clap hands, "yay, we're here"); caregiver prompts child to climb into and out of car and safety seat
Play	Caregiver sings nursery rhymes and songs while driving; child looks at a book or listens to audio book
Social	Caregiver prompts child to wave to people or objects "wave bye-bye to the truck", "hi grandma, we're here")

Putting Shoes On	
Communication	Child labels or points to "shoes," and "socks"; caregiver prompts child to request "help me", prompts child to sign "all done" when finished putting shoes on
Academic	Caregiver asks questions (e.g., "where's the red shoe?", "find Daddy's shoe") and prompts child to respond either by pointing or verbalizing; caregiver helps child count shoes
Motor	Child pulls on socks using two hands, pushes foot into shoe and straps velcro (caregiver may use hand-overhand prompting at each step, as necessary, for the child to be successful)
Play	Caregiver puts shoes on a stuffed animal or doll to promote imitation; caregiver promotes playful interactions ("Yay, you have your shoes on, let's pretend we're ice-skating", "let's hop like a bunny", "let's tiptoe")
Social	Caregiver creates opportunities for silly interactions (e.g. caregiver puts child's shoe on her head and waits for child to respond); caregiver prompts child to fill in words: "all (done)" "time to (go)"

Eating Meals		
Communication	Caregiver provides opportunities for child to make choices (foods, bowls, drinks, etc.), choices may be indicated verbally, using sign language or by pointing	
Academic	Child sits in chair throughout the mealtime; caregiver labels or talks about food items and meal activities (e.g., "it's breakfast time, so you're having juice and cereal")	
Motor	Child holds and uses spoon (may be messy); child drinks from a cup or straw	
Play	Caregiver pretends to feed a stuffed animal/doll; child imitates feeding while caregiver narrates scene, "yes, doggie is hungry, let's feed him"	
Social	Caregiver prompts child to share food (with caregiver or sibling) by helping child hand food item to family member when asked; caregiver promotes interest in others, (e.g., "look what your brother is eating!")	

Building with Blocks		
Communication	Caregiver prompts child to request a block, provides multiple opportunities for requests and also provides opportunities for choice-making (e.g., caregiver holds up two blocks and says "which block do you want?"); caregiver may also teach yes/no response by saying "do you want this block?" and prompting child to indicate yes/no either verbally or by shaking his head	
Academic	Caregiver helps child count blocks and discusses features of the blocks or the block tower (color, shape, height)	
Motor	Child coordinates motor movements to build with blocks	
Play	Caregiver shows child how to crash into the tower with toy car; child is prompted to imitate a simple structure built by the caregiver, caregiver incorporates animal figures, cars or other toys into a scene with the blocks	
Social	Caregiver prompts child to hand a block to another person; caregiver and child play peek-a-boo behind the tower of blocks	