

Typical and Atypical Child Development
 Module 4: Adolescence-Transition to Adult Life, Ages 14-21
 Matrices

	Typical Developmental Milestones	Atypical Developmental for Sam at 14 Years Old	Notes
14-21 YEARS OF AGE (Teenage to Young Adult Years)			
SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL	Has more interest in the opposite sex.	Is not invited to do things after school or on weekends. Appears to have limited peer connections and relies on his parents for his social connections	
	Goes through less conflict with parents.	Shows inappropriate behavior in public as well as at home, including masturbating in public and lifting his shirt.	
	Shows more independence from parents.		
	Has a deeper capacity for caring and sharing and for developing more intimate relationships.		
	Spends less time with parents and more time with friends.		
	Can experience sadness or depression, which can lead to other problems.		
LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION		Speaks in short sentences of only three to five words. Strangers may struggle to understand him if he is speaking about something without context.	
THINKING AND LEARNING	Learns more defined work habits.	Has a low IQ.	
	Shows more concern about future school and work plans.	Is below grade level and has a limited ability to read.	
	Is better able to give reasons for their own choices, including about what is right or wrong.	Needs clothes fasteners adapted for him to be able to dress.	

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14-21 YEARS OF AGE (Teenage to Young Adult Years)			
MOVEMENT AND PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT	Most girls will be physically mature at this stage, while boys may still be maturing physically.	Needs clothes fasteners adapted for him to be able to dress.	
	Most children will reach or are close to reaching their adult height and weight at this age.		
	Capable of having children.		

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	Typical Developmental Milestones	Atypical Developmental for Brandon at 15 Years Old	Notes
14-21 YEARS OF AGE (Teenage to Young Adult Years)			
SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL	Has more interest in the opposite sex.	Unable to complete his responsibilities at home because his parents have substantially reduced demands on him in order to avoid his outbursts at being requested to do things.	
	Goes through less conflict with parents.	Has been increasingly aggressive with his peers and family.	
	Shows more independence from parents.	Has been increasingly aggressive with his peers and family.	
	Has a deeper capacity for caring and sharing and for developing more intimate relationships.	Requires supervision at school due to behavioral issues.	
	Spends less time with parents and more time with friends.	Frequently runs away, running from home, school and other activities one to three times weekly.	
	Can experience sadness or depression, which can lead to other problems.	Unable to participate in activities both at school and at home.	
THINKING AND LEARNING	Learns more defined work habits.		
	Shows more concern about future school and work plans.		
	IS better able to give reasons for their own choices, including about what is right or wrong.	At home, is unable to do activities independently and needs regular supervision.	

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14-21 YEARS OF AGE (Teenage to Young Adult Years)			
MOVEMENT AND PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT	Most girls will be physically mature at this stage, while boys may still be maturing physically.	Although he appears capable of self-care, like bathing, brushing his teeth and changing his clothes, he carries out these activities irregularly, sometimes only bathing and brushing his teeth two to three times a month and changing his clothes only once a week.	
	Most children will reach or are close to reaching their adult height and weight at this age.		
	Capable of having children.		

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	Typical Developmental Milestones	Atypical Developmental for Jayla at 16 Years Old	Notes
14-21 YEARS OF AGE (Teenage to Young Adult Years)			
SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL	Has more interest in the opposite sex.	Needs restrictions to limit her access to food.	
	Goes through less conflict with parents.	Always has had obsessive food-seeking behavior, but it has recently reached a new level of intensity.	
	Shows more independence from parents.	Has very limited and often negative interaction with her peers.	
	Has a deeper capacity for caring and sharing and for developing more intimate relationships.	Has begun demonstrating behavioral outbursts both at home and in the community.	
	Spends less time with parents and more time with friends.	Demonstrates obsessive behavior including talking incessantly and picking at her skin	
	Can experience sadness or depression, which can lead to other problems.		
LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION			
THINKING AND LEARNING	Learns more defined work habits.	Struggles academically and receives special education instruction.	
	Shows more concern about future school and work plans.		
	Is better able to give reasons for their own choices, including about what is right or wrong.		

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	Typical Developmental Milestones	Atypical Developmental for Jayla at 16 Years Old	Notes
14-21 YEARS OF AGE (Teenage to Young Adult Years)			
MOVEMENT AND PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT	Most girls will be physically mature at this stage, while boys may still be maturing physically.		
	Most children will reach or are close to reaching their adult height and weight at this age.		
	Capable of having children.		

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	Typical Developmental Milestones	Atypical Developmental for Emma at 16 Years Old	Notes
14-21 YEARS OF AGE (Teenage to Young Adult Years)			
SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL	Has more interest in the opposite sex.	Engages in self-harming behavior, including cutting and meeting men whom she has met on the Internet.	
	Goes through less conflict with parents.	Is at high risk for suicide.	
	Shows more independence from parents.	Has threatened to kill her parents. Even though she has not acted on these threats, she is often verbally intimidating toward them.	
	Has a deeper capacity for caring and sharing and for developing more intimate relationships.	Needs constant supervision	
	Spends less time with parents and more time with friends.	Has limited peer connections	
	Can experience sadness or depression, which can lead to other problems.	Although she can manage self-care independently, she has become more lax in personal hygiene and has to be reminded to take showers.	
LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION			
THINKING AND LEARNING	Learns more defined work habits.		
	Shows more concern about future school and work plans.		
	Is better able to give reasons for their own choices, including about what is right or wrong.		

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	Typical Developmental Milestones	Atypical Developmental for Emma at 16 Years Old	Notes
14-21 YEARS OF AGE (Teenage to Young Adult Years)			
MOVEMENT AND PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT	Most girls will be physically mature at this stage, while boys may still be maturing physically.		
	Most children will reach or are close to reaching their adult height and weight at this age.		
	Capable of having children.		

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	Typical Developmental Milestones	Atypical Developmental for Anton at 20 Years Old	Notes
14-21 YEARS OF AGE (Teenage to Young Adult Years)			
SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL	Has more interest in the opposite sex.	Has very limited peer relationships	
	Goes through less conflict with parents.	Is unable to determine safe or unsafe situations and will wander off	
	Show more independence from parents.	Needs constant supervision	
	Has a deeper capacity for caring and sharing and for developing more intimate relationships.		
	Spends less time with parents and more time with friends.		
	Can experience sadness or depression, which can lead to other problems.		
LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION			
THINKING AND LEARNING	Learns more defined work habits.	Needs assistance in managing and learning life skills	
	Shows more concern about future school and work plans.	Is able to self-care—bathing, dressing, toileting—but only with step by step cueing	
		Is highly sensitive to loud sounds, which inhibits his ability to participate in certain activities	
	Is better able to give reasons for their own choices, including about what is right or wrong.		

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	Typical Developmental Milestones	Atypical Developmental for Anton at 20 Years Old	Notes
14-21 YEARS OF AGE (Teenage to Young Adult Years)			
MOVEMENT AND PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT	Most girls will be physically mature at this stage, while boys may still be maturing physically.		
	Most children will reach or are close to reaching their adult height and weight at this age.		
	Capable of having children.		