

Developmental Milestones

How your child plays, learns, speaks, acts, and moves offers important clues about your child's development. Developmental milestones are things most children can do by a certain age.



Check the milestones your child has reached by his or her 1st birthday. Take this with you and talk with your child's doctor at every visit about the milestones your child has reached and what to expect next.

What most babies do by this age:

Social and Emotional

- ◆ Is shy or nervous with strangers
- ◆ Cries when mom or dad leaves
- ◆ Has favorite things and people
- ◆ Shows fear in some situations
- ◆ Hands you a book when he wants to hear a story
- ◆ Repeats sounds or actions to get attention
- ◆ Puts out arm or leg to help with dressing
- ◆ Plays games such as "peek-a-boo" and "pat-a-cake"

Language/Communication

- ◆ Responds to simple spoken requests
- ◆ Uses simple gestures, like shaking head "no" or waving "bye-bye"
- ◆ Makes sounds with changes in tone (sounds more like speech)
- ◆ Says "mama" and "dada" & exclamations like "uh-oh!"
- ◆ Tries to say words you say

Cognitive (learning, thinking, problem-solving)

- ◆ Explores things in different ways, like shaking, banging, throwing
- ◆ Finds hidden things easily
- ◆ Looks at the right picture or thing when it's named
- ◆ Copies gestures
- ◆ Starts to use things correctly; for example, drinks from a cup, brushes hair
- ◆ Bangs two things together
- ◆ Puts things in a container, takes things out of a container
- ◆ Lets things go without help
- ◆ Pokes with index (pointer) finger
- ◆ Follows simple directions like "pick up the toy"

Movement/Physical Development

- ◆ Gets to a sitting position without help
- ◆ Pulls up to stand, walks holding on to furniture ("cruising")
- ◆ May take a few steps without holding on
- ◆ May stand alone

Act early by talking to your child's doctor if your child:

- Doesn't crawl
- Can't stand when supported
- Doesn't search for things that she sees you hide
- Doesn't say single words like "mama" or "dada"
- Doesn't learn gestures like waving or shaking head
- Doesn't point to things
- Loses skills he once had



Adapted from CARING FOR YOUR BABY AND YOUNG CHILD: BIRTH TO AGE 5, Fifth Edition, edited by Steven Shelov and Tanya Remer Altmann © 1991, 1993, 1998, 2004, 2009 by the American Academy of Pediatrics and BRIGHT FUTURES: GUIDELINES FOR HEALTH SUPERVISION OF INFANTS, CHILDREN, AND ADOLESCENTS, Third Edition, edited by Joseph Hagan, Jr., Judith S. Shaw, and Paula M. Duncan, 2008, Elk Grove Village, IL: American Academy of Pediatrics



www.hrdc7.org

This project is funded in whole or in part under a contract with the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services. The statements herein do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the department.

