



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.

## What most babies do by this age:

### Social and Emotional

- Likes to hand things to others as play
- May have temper tantrums
- May be afraid of strangers
- Plays simple pretend, such as feeding a doll
- Points to show others something interesting

### Language/Communication

- Says several single words
- Says and shakes head "no"
- Points to show someone what they want

### Cognitive

- Knows the purpose of ordinary objects
- Points to get the attention of others
- Shows interest in a doll or stuffed animal by pretending to feed
- Points to one body part
- Scribbles on their own

### Movement/Physical Development

- Walks alone and may walk up steps and run
- Brings hands to mouth
- Pulls toys while walking
- Drinks from a cup and eats with a spoon

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

- Doesn't point to show things to others
- Can't walk
- Doesn't know the use of ordinary objects
- Doesn't copy others
- Doesn't have at least 6 words or gain new words
- Doesn't notice or mind when a caregiver leaves or returns

## *If you're concerned, act early.*

**Tell your child's doctor or nurse** if you notice any of these signs of possible developmental delay for this age.

**For more help**, contact the Child Development Center (406-549-6413, 1-800-914-4779, or online at [childdevcenter.org](http://childdevcenter.org)) which offers screening and support services throughout Western Montana.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that children be screened for general development using standardized, validated tools at 9, 18, and 24 or 30 months and for autism at 18 and 24 months or whenever a parent or provider has a concern. Ask your child's doctor about your child's developmental screening.



## ChildCareResources

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