



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

- Begins to smile at people
- Can briefly calm themselves (may bring hands to mouth and suck on hand)
- Tries to look at parent

Language/Communication

- Coos, makes gurgling sounds
- Turns head toward sounds
- Raises head and chest when lying on stomach

Cognitive

- Pays attention to faces
- Begins to follow things with eyes and recognize people at a distance
- Begins to act bored (cries, fusses) if activity doesn't change

Movement/Physical Development

- Can hold head up and begins to push up when lying on tummy
- Makes smoother movements with arms and legs

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

- Doesn't respond to loud sounds
- Doesn't watch things as they move
- Doesn't smile at people
- Doesn't bring hands to mouth
- Can't hold head up when pushing up when on tummy

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) 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.



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