



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

- Knows familiar faces and begins to know if someone is a stranger
- Likes to play with others, especially parents
- Responds to other people's emotions and often seems happy

Language/Communication

- Responds to sounds by making sounds
- Strings vowels together when babbling
- Responds to own name
- Begins to say consonant sounds and jabbbers

Cognitive

- Looks around at things nearby
- Brings things to mouth
- Shows curiosity about things and tries to get things that are out of reach
- Begins to pass things from one hand to the other

Movement/Physical Development

- Rolls over in both directions, rocks forward and backwards
- Begins to sit without support
- When standing, supports weight on legs and might bounce

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

- Doesn't try to get things that are in reach
- Shows no affection for caregivers
- Doesn't respond to sounds around them
- Has difficulty getting things to mouth
- Doesn't make vowel sounds ("ah," "eh," "oh")
- Doesn't roll over in either direction
- Seems very floppy, like a rag doll

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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