



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

- May be afraid of strangers
- May be clingy with familiar adults
- Has favorite toys

Language/Communication

- Understands “no”
- Makes a lot of different sounds like “mamamama” and “bababababa”
- Copies sounds and gestures of others
- Uses fingers to point at things

Cognitive

- Watches the path of something as it falls
- Looks for things they see you hide
- Plays peek-a-boo
- Puts things in their mouth
- Moves things smoothly from one hand to another

Movement/Physical Development

- Stands, holding on
- Can get into sitting position
- Sits without support
- Pulls to stand
- Crawls

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

- Doesn't bear weight on legs with support
- Doesn't sit with help
- Doesn't babble (“mama,” “baba,” “dada”)
- Doesn't respond to own name
- Doesn't seem to recognize familiar people
- Doesn't look where you point
- Doesn't transfer toys from one hand to the other

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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