

- DEVELOPMENTAL DELAYS - Learn the Signs



As they grow, children are always learning new things. Below are just some of the things you should look for as your child grows. Use this as a guide, and if you have any concerns, talk with your child's doctor.

At 6 months, many children

- respond to own name
- respond to other people's emotions and often seem happy
- copy sounds
- like to play with others, especially parents

At 1 year (12 months), many children

- use simple gestures, like shaking head "no" or waving "bye-bye"
- say "mama" and "dada" and exclamations like "uh-oh!"
- copy gestures
- respond to simple spoken requests

At 1 ½ years (18 months), many children

- play simple pretend, such as feeding a doll
- point to show others something interesting
- show a full range of emotions, such as happy, sad, angry
- say several single words

At 2 years (24 months), many children

- say sentences with 2 to 4 words
- follow simple instructions
- get excited when with other children
- point to things or pictures when they are named

At 3 years (36 months), many children

- show affection for friends without prompting
- carry on a conversation using 2 to 3 sentences
- copy adults and friends
- play make-believe with dolls, animals, and people

At 4 years (48 months), many children

- tell stories
- would rather play with other children than by themselves
- play cooperatively with others

Questions to ask your child's doctor:

- Is my child's development on track for his or her age?
- How can I track my child's development?
- What should I do if I'm worried about my child's progress?
- Where can I get more information?



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* 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.cdc.gov/actearly 1-800-CDC-INFO Learn the Signs. Act Early.