

# 6 Months-9 Months

## Guide to Developmental Milestones



### Social Emotional Development

- Simple imitative toy play with caregiver
- Plays with toys briefly, more independently
- Entertains self briefly
- Enjoys mirror play
- Able to predict repeated events
- Object permanence (i.e. able to find a toy hidden under a blanket)
- Enjoys repeating interesting experiences (shaking a rattle)
- Experiences wide range of emotions
- Increased interest in self, others, world
- Initiates play
- Has increased separation anxiety
- Enjoys the freedom that their new movement brings



### Gross Motor Skills

#### *When placed on belly*

- Will spend less time in this position due to becoming more mobile
- Moves to this position from sitting
- May begin to move forward with stomach on floor
- May begin to push up onto hands and knees

#### *Movement activities*

- Sits unsupported and reaches for toys
- Rocks on hands and knees
- Begins to crawl on hands and knees
- Pulls to stand using a stable object
- Easily moves in and out of sitting position
- Bounces when held in a standing position



### Fine Motor Skills

- Plays with feet
- Sits in high chair
- Stops self from falling by putting arms out to the side or in front
- Passes toy from one hand to another
- Reaches with one hand
- Bats and grasps dangling objects
- Uses his/her thumb and fingertips or thumb and side of index finger to grasp objects
- Rakes tiny objects with his/her fingers
- Holds small objects, one in each hand
- No longer stares at hands

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### Sensory

- Investigates objects with vision, touch, and taste
- Shows increased tolerance of various social and environmental situations
- May enjoy playing with food



### Speech, Language and Hearing

- Responds to sounds when source is not visible
- Responds to a simple request like “come here”
- Responds to facial expressions
- Looks at a picture when it is named
- Responds to “no” most of the time
- Vocalizes during games
- Attempts to imitate sounds
- Produces repeated syllables (ma ma ma, ba ba ba)
- Produces four or more different sounds (ma, da, ba, ga)
- Shouts to gain attention
- Shows interest in the sounds of objects
- Imitates familiar gestures
- Recognizes family members’ names
- Waves “bye-bye”
- Begins to recognize common words
- Increase in babbling



### Oral Motor and Feeding

- Decrease in gag response
- Spoon feeding
- Opens mouth when food approaches
- Begins drinking with a cup, but a lot of liquid is spilled
- Uses jaw movements to “chew” soft foods
- Self-feeds finger food
- Holds a spoon



All children develop at their own pace, but you can use this guide to help you know what to look for along the way. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your infant’s/child’s development, please contact **Milestones For Kids’ Success** at **630.792.1800** for a FREE developmental screening.

**Disclaimer:** This content was created by Milestones For Kids’ Success and represents research available as of 10/2007. The information is intended to inform and educate. It is not a replacement for medical evaluation, advice, diagnosis or treatment by a healthcare professional.

