

9 Months-12 Months

Guide to Developmental Milestones



Social Emotional Development

- Moves around but will look to caregiver for approval of his/her actions. Uses caregiver as a secure base from which to explore (will explore environment, but makes sure that parent is still physically present while doing so.)
- Imitative learning; baby copies caregiver's actions as a way of learning
- Performs for social attention
- Begins to learn the idea of turn taking
- Begins to anticipate familiar events
- Stranger anxiety



Gross Motor Skills

- Turns 360 degrees in sitting
- Moves from floor to stand
- Begins to walk with support
- Stands alone
- Sits from standing, first with help and then alone
- Moves along furniture in standing position (cruising)
- Stands without support for a few seconds
- Begins to take steps independently



Fine Motor Skills

- Opens cabinets, pulls tablecloths
- Extends toy to show others
- Enjoys banging, waving, and throwing toys
- Takes objects out of container with hands
- Claps hands when caregiver sings Patti Cake
- Usually examines objects before putting into mouth
- Picks up small objects with thumb and two fingers
- Pokes and points at things, using his/her index fingers
- Releases items voluntarily and places objects into a container
- Initiates play
- Waves bye-bye



Self-help

- Likes to feed self
- Drinks from a cup
- Helps with dressing and undressing

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Sensory

- Explores food with fingers
- Eats a variety of textured and flavored foods using his/her fingers
- Enjoys bath time, splashing, playing in the water



Speech, Language and Hearing

- Begins to use one or two words spontaneously
- Begins to use “mama” or “dada” meaningfully
- Begins to use a word to call a person
- Vocalizes to change activities or call others
- Imitates consonant and vowel combinations
- Imitates non-speech sounds
- Begins to imitate the name of familiar objects
- Vocalizes with intent frequently
- Imitates new gestures
- Begins to follow simple commands
- Verbalizes or vocalizes in response to verbal requests
- Identifies two body parts on self by pointing or gesturing
- Listens selectively to new words
- Vocalizations have rising and falling sounds like adult speech



Oral Motor and Feeding

- Begins to drink from sippy cup
- Chews food
- Drools due to teething
- Begins to bite on soft solid foods



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.

