

- Stare longer at “impossible” events (like ordinary objects suspended in midair)
- Distinguish between inanimate and animate objects, and understand that inanimate objects must be propelled into motion by an external force.
- Distinguish among pictures that show different numbers of items.
- Use the relative size of objects as a clue to show how close or far away they are.
- Uses gestures to communicate with you, for example, she may reach out to you when he wants to be picked up.
- Will not be affectionate with people she doesn’t know.

9 Months to 12 Months

As they grow, children continue to explore how the world works and build on the conceptual leaps described above. At this age, babies can:

- Understand that an object still exists even when it’s not in view
- Respond to simple directions and questions with gestures, sounds and perhaps words
- Imitate gestures and actions
- Experiment purposefully with the physical properties of objects, for example, by seeing how objects fit into a container or what happens if the container is turned over
- Enjoy looking at picture books.
- Pulls herself up from the floor to stand against a sofa, a table or you.

1 Year to 2 Years

Children at this time spend much of their time intently observing and imitating the actions of adults. Most can:

- Identify body parts when point to it.
- Has a vocabulary of about 200 words.
- May play next to other children, but will not learn to share.
- Prefer the company of adults than other children.
- May show jealousy when he isn’t the center of attention.
- Is able to put 2 -3 words to make a simple sentence.

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND



5770 Fagatogo
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799
Phone (684) 699-6074
Fax (684) 699-6098

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Tips on Children’s Developmental Milestones

0 to 2 Years

Child development is a process every child goes through. This process involves learning and mastering skills like sitting, walking, skipping, and tying shoes. Children learn these skills, called developmental milestones, during predictable time periods. From kindergarten through high school, youth pass through four developmental stages. Specialist often identify these periods as:

- **Infancy and Toddlers: Ages 0-2**
- **Pre-Schoolers: Ages 3-4**
- **Early Childhood: Ages 5-8**
- **Middle Childhood: Ages 9-11**
- **Early Adolescence: Ages 12-14**
- **Middle Adolescence: Ages 15-18**

The four main areas of development milestones where children’s skills are measured are:

1. Physical
2. Social and Emotional
3. Thinking
4. Communication

Although children differ in the rate at which they develop, the order of the stages does not vary. While it is extremely important to remember that every child is unique and special in his or her own right, some needs and interests are universal to all children to ensure successful development.

For example:

- Children need to experience a positive self concept.
- Children need to experience success in what they attempt to do.
- Children need to become increasingly independent.
- Children need to give and receive attention.
- Children need to experience adventure.
- Children need to be accepted by people of different ages-peers as well as those in authority.

These needs continue from infancy through old age. Other needs vary for different children and different ages. Children develop at their own pace, and all characteristics will not be observed in all children at the same age or at the same stage of development. Keep in mind the following two basic development principles.

1. Age is not a perfect predictor of maturity. Most children go through predictable order, but ages at which they do this will vary enormously.

An activity that is well within the capability of one child may be much too difficult for another child exactly the same age.

2. Growth may proceed at different rate in various development areas within an individual child. A child who is advanced physically may be average in terms of mental ability and below average in terms of emotional and social growth. A child may need different experiences in each of these areas to reach his or her full potential.

Birth to 3 Months

Newborns begin right away to use and integrate their senses to explore their world. Most infants can:

- See clearly within 13 inches.
- Focus on and follow moving objects, including human faces.
- See all colors and distinguish hue and brightness.
- Distinguish the pitch and volume of sounds.
- Discriminate sweet, sour, bitter, and salty tastes.
- Respond with facial expressions to strong stimuli (like colors).
- Prefer high contrast items and geometric shapes.
- Begin to anticipate events (for example, sucking at the sight of a nipple).
- Her cries is becoming easier to identify; to tell you if she is hungry, wet, tired, or wants a change of position.

3 Months to 6 Months

Babies perceptual abilities improve rapidly. At this age, they are able to:

- Recognize faces.
- Differentiate between different people based on the way they look, sound, or feel.
- React to and imitate the facial expressions of others.
- Respond to familiar sounds.
- Can focus on objects as far as three feet away.
- She will learn to push up on her hands to look around.
- Starts to roll over.
- Learns to hold her head up on her own.
- Can reach and grab things.
- Become more active in getting your attention.
- Begin using many vowel sounds.

6 Months to 9 Months

Using ingenious research methods, scientists have found that babies begin very early to have glimmers of how the world works. Even young babies have been found to:

- Pays more attention to the size and shapes of objects.
- Can move a toy easily from one hand to another.
- Is learning to sit by herself without pillows or your body as support.
- Pushes her feet against the floor or by using her elbows and forearms to move. She is getting ready to crawl.