**Developmental Health Watch**

Alert your child’s doctor or nurse if your child displays any of the following signs of possible developmental delay for this age range.

- Cannot walk by 18 months
- Fails to develop a mature heel-toe walking pattern after several months of walking, or walks only on his toes
- Does not speak at least 15 words
- Does not use two-word sentences by age 2
- By 15 months, does not seem to know the function of common household objects (brush, telephone, bell, fork, spoon)
- Does not imitate actions or words by the end of this period
- Does not follow simple instructions by age 2
- Cannot push a wheeled toy by age 2
- Experiences a dramatic loss of skills he or she once had

(24 Months—36 Months)

**Social**

- Imitates adults and playmates
- Spontaneously shows affection for familiar playmates
- Can take turns in games
- Understands concept of “mine” and “his/her”

**Emotional**

- Expresses affection openly
- Expresses a wide range of emotions
- By 3, separates easily from parents
- Objects to major changes in routine

**Cognitive**

- Makes mechanical toys work
- Matches an object in her hand or room to picture in a book
- Plays make-believe with dolls, animals, and people
- Sorts objects by shape and color
- Completes puzzles with three or four pieces
- Understands concept of “two”

**Hand and Finger Skills**

- Scribbles on his or her own
- Turns over container to pour out contents
- Might use one hand more often than the other

**Motor Skills**

- Walks up and down stairs, alternating feet (one foot per stair step)
- Kicks ball
- Runs easily
- Pedals tricycle
- Bends over easily without falling

**Developmental Health Watch**

Alert your child’s doctor or nurse if your child displays any of the following signs of possible developmental delay for this age range.

- Frequent falling and difficulty with stairs
- Persistent drooling or very unclear speech
- Cannot build a tower of more than four blocks
- Difficulty manipulating small objects
- Cannot copy a circle by age 3
- Cannot communicate in short phrases
- No involvement in “pretend” play
- Does not understand simple instructions
- Poor eye contact
- Limited interest in toys
- Experiences a dramatic loss in skill he or she once had

**Language**

- Follows a two-or three-part command
- Recognizes and identifies almost all common objects and pictures
- Understands most sentences
- Understands placement in space (“on”, “in”, “under”)
- Uses 4 to 5 word sentences
- Can say name, age, sex
- Uses pronouns (I, you, me, we, they) and some plurals (cars, dogs, cats)
- Strangers can understand most of his or her words

**Movement**

- Climbs well
- Walks up and down stairs, alternating feet (one foot per stair step)
- Kicks ball
- Runs easily
- Pedals tricycle
- Bends over easily without falling
- Turns book pages one at a time
- Builds tower of more than six blocks
- Holds pencil in writing position
- Screws unscrews jar lids, nuts, and bolts
- Turns rotating handles

What will an Early Intervention evaluation tell me about my child?

During an evaluation, the early intervention team will gather information about your child to answer specific questions about your child’s development. An early intervention evaluation will give you & the early intervention team information about your child’s development & help decide if there is a need for ongoing early intervention services.

The early intervention evaluation will look at gross motor skills, fine motor skills, communication, speech, language, sensory, social & emotional development, cognitive, academic & self-help skills.

Who is eligible for early intervention services?

In New Jersey, infants & toddlers are eligible for early intervention services if they are under 3 years of age. The child must demonstrate delays of at least:

- 2.0 standard deviation below the mean in one developmental area
- 1.5 standard deviation below the mean in two or more of the developmental areas
- Medically diagnosed physical or mental condition that typically results in developmental delay (for example, Down Syndrome, Autism, Cerebral Palsy, etc.)

WE’RE HERE TO HELP

Regional Early Intervention Collaboratives (REIC) are a partnership of families & early intervention providers working together to ensure high quality early intervention services for children with special needs (ages 0–3) and their families living in New Jersey.

The REIC work to assure access to & availability of individualized early intervention services & assists families as they work to meet their child’s needs in their home & community.

“Through our sameness we connect, through our differences, we grow.”

—Virginia Satir, World Renowned Family Therapist

If your child should be crawling, walking or talking, but isn’t, call for information about resources and services for your child under age 3.

Statewide, toll-free

(888) 653-4463

www.njeis.org

Babies develop at their own pace, so it's impossible to tell exactly when your child will learn a given skill. The developmental milestones listed below will give you a general idea of the changes you can expect, but don't be alarmed if your own baby's development takes a slightly different course.

### Developmental Health Watch

**Alert your child's doctor or nurse if your child displays any of the following signs of possible developmental delay for this age range.**

- **Social and Emotional**
  - Does not pay attention to new faces, or seems frightened by new faces or surroundings
  - Experiences a dramatic loss of skills he or she once had

- **Cognitive**
  - Finds partially hidden object
  - Expects with hands and mouth
  - Struggles to get objects that are out of reach

- **Language**
  - Responds to own name
  - Begins to respond to "no"
  - Can tell emotions by tone of voice
  - Catches sound by making sounds
  - Uses voice to express joy and displeasure
  - Babble chains of sounds

- **Movement**
  - Rolls both ways (front to back, back to front)
  - Responds to simple verbal requests

- **Vision**
  - Develops full color vision
  - Distance vision matures
  - Ability to track moving objects improves

- **Hand and Finger Skills**
  - Uses one hand
  - Turns head toward direction of sound
  - Develops fine hand movements
  - Uses one hand to rake objects

### Developmental Health Watch

**Alert your child's doctor or nurse if your child displays any of the following signs of possible developmental delay for this age range.**

- **Social and Emotional**
  - Shy or anxious with strangers
  - Cries when mother or father leaves
  - Enjoys imitating people in his play

- **Cognitive**
  - Explores objects in many different ways (shaking, banging, throwing, dropping)
  - Finds hidden objects easily

- **Language**
  - Pays increasing attention to speech
  - Responds to simple verbal requests

- **Movement**
  - Reaches sitting position without assistance
  - Demonstrates increasing independence

- **Vision**
  - Develops full color vision
  - Distance vision matures

- **Hand and Finger Skills**
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