

# Your baby at 12 months



Baby's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Baby's Age \_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_

Milestones matter! How your baby plays, learns, speaks, acts, and moves offers important clues about his or her development. Check the milestones your baby has reached by 12 months. Take this with you and talk with your baby's doctor at every well-child visit about the milestones your baby has reached and what to expect next.

## What most babies do by this age:

### Social/Emotional Milestones

- Plays games with you, like pat-a-cake

### Language/Communication Milestones

- Waves "bye-bye"
- Calls a parent "mama" or "dada" or another special name
- Understands "no" (pauses briefly or stops when you say it)

### Cognitive Milestones

#### (learning, thinking, problem-solving)

- Puts something in a container, like a block in a cup
- Looks for things he sees you hide, like a toy under a blanket

### Movement/Physical Development Milestones

- Pulls up to stand
- Walks, holding on to furniture
- Drinks from a cup without a lid, as you hold it
- Picks things up between thumb and pointer finger, like small bits of food

## Other important things to share with the doctor...

1. What are some things you and your baby do together? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What are some things your baby likes to do? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Is there anything your baby does or does not do that concerns you? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Has your baby lost any skills he/she once had? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Does your baby have any special healthcare needs or was he/she born prematurely? \_\_\_\_\_

**You know your baby best.** Don't wait. If your baby is not meeting one or more milestones, has lost skills he or she once had, or you have other concerns, act early. Talk with your baby's doctor, share your concerns, and ask about developmental screening. If you or the doctor are still concerned:

1. Ask for a referral to a specialist who can evaluate your baby more; and
2. Call your state or territory's early intervention program to find out if your baby can get services to help. Learn more and find the number at [cdc.gov/FindEI](http://cdc.gov/FindEI).

For more on how to help your baby, visit [cdc.gov/Concerned](http://cdc.gov/Concerned).

**Don't wait.**  
**Acting early can make**  
**a real difference!**



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## Your next steps

- Share this checklist & keep tracking milestones!** Take this checklist to your child's next check-up and be sure to share it with the doctor, as well as others who care for your child. Keep tracking by downloading CDC's FREE *Milestone Tracker* app or find online checklists at [www.cdc.gov/Milestones](http://www.cdc.gov/Milestones).
- Support your child's development with these tips and many more from [www.cdc.gov/milestones](http://www.cdc.gov/milestones) or on CDC's *Milestone Tracker* app**
  - Give your baby water, breast milk, or plain milk. You don't need to give your baby juice, but if you do, give 4 ounces or less a day of 100% fruit juice. Do not give your baby other sugary beverages, such as fruit drinks, soda, sports drinks, or flavored milks.
  - Help your baby get used to foods with different tastes and textures. Foods can be smooth, mashed, or finely chopped. Your baby might not like every food on the first try. Give your baby a chance to try foods again and again.
  - Give your baby safe places to explore. Baby-proof your home. For example, move sharp or breakable things out of reach. Lock away medicines, chemicals, and cleaning products. Save the Poison Help Line number, 800-222-1222, in all phones.
  - Build on what your baby tries to say. If he says "ta," say "Yes, a truck," or if he says "truck," say "Yes, that's a big, blue truck."

## If your child is missing milestones or you have other concerns:

- Call your child's doctor.** Schedule a follow-up visit with your child's doctor as soon as possible. Tell the doctor you want to talk about your child's development. Take this checklist with you and ask for developmental screening.
- Call for services to help.** Call \_\_\_\_\_ and say "I have concerns about my child's development and would like to have my child evaluated to find out if he/she is eligible for services to help." You don't need a doctor's referral to call this program.

**Don't wait. Acting early can make a real difference!**

## Note to Dr. \_\_\_\_\_ :

- WIC (the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) encourages families to talk with you about their child's development.
- This checklist reflects milestones **MOST children (at least 75%)** would be expected to meet by this age.
- Missing milestones can be an indication to administer a developmental screening. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends developmental screening between recommended screening ages if concerns arise; this checklist is not a substitute for a standardized, validated screening tool.
- If a developmental screening shows concerns or you or the parent still have concerns, refer to your states' early intervention program \_\_\_\_\_ and, at the same time, for further developmental and medical evaluation.
- For FREE resources to support developmental surveillance, visit [cdc.gov/ActEarly/Healthcare](http://cdc.gov/ActEarly/Healthcare).



[www.cdc.gov/ActEarly](http://www.cdc.gov/ActEarly)  
1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636)



Download CDC's  
free *Milestone  
Tracker* app



**Learn the Signs. Act Early.**