

Your child at 15 months



Child's Name _____

Child's Age _____

Today's Date _____

Milestones matter! How your child plays, learns, speaks, acts, and moves offers important clues about his or her development. Check the milestones your child has reached by 15 months. Take this with you and talk with your child's doctor at every well-child visit about the milestones your child has reached and what to expect next.

What most children do by this age:

Social/Emotional Milestones

- Copies other children while playing, like taking toys out of a container when another child does
- Shows you an object she likes
- Claps when excited
- Hugs stuffed doll or other toy
- Shows you affection (hugs, cuddles, or kisses you)

Language/Communication Milestones

- Tries to say one or two words besides "mama" or "dada," like "ba" for ball or "da" for dog
- Looks at a familiar object when you name it
- Follows directions given with both a gesture and words. For example, he gives you a toy when you hold out your hand and say, "Give me the toy."
- Points to ask for something or to get help

Cognitive Milestones

(learning, thinking, problem-solving)

- Tries to use things the right way, like a phone, cup, or book
- Stacks at least two small objects, like blocks

Movement/Physical Development Milestones

- Takes a few steps on his own
- Uses fingers to feed herself some food

Other important things to share with the doctor...

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

You know your child best. Don't wait. If your child 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 child'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 child more; and
2. Call your state or territory's early intervention program to find out if your child can get services to help. Learn more and find the number at cdc.gov/FindEI.

For more on how to help your baby, visit 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.
- Support your child's development with these tips and many more from www.cdc.gov/milestones or on CDC's *Milestone Tracker* app**
 - Have steady routines for sleeping and feeding. Create a calm, quiet bedtime for your child. Put on his pajamas, brush his teeth, and read 1 or 2 books to him. Children between 1 and 2 years of age need 11 to 14 hours of sleep a day (including naps). Consistent sleep times make it easier!
 - Let your child use a cup without a lid for drinking and practice eating with a spoon. Learning to eat and drink is messy but fun!
 - Limit screen time (TV, tablets, phones, etc.) to video calling with loved ones. Screen time is not recommended for children younger than 2 years of age. Children learn by talking, playing, and interacting with others.
 - Sing songs with gestures, such as "Wheels on the Bus." See if your child tries to do some of the actions.



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.



www.cdc.gov/ActEarly
1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636)



Download CDC's
free *Milestone
Tracker* app



Learn the Signs. Act Early.