

Your Child's Developmental Important Milestones: (8 Months - 12 Month)

Social and Emotional

- Shyness or anxious with strangers
- Cries when mother or father leaves
- Enjoys imitating people in his play
- Shows specific preference for certain people and toys
- Test parental response to his actions during feeding
- Test parental response to his behavior
- May be fearful in some situations
- Prefers mothers and/or regular caregivers over all others
- Finger-feed himself/herself
- Extends arm or leg to help with being dressed

Cognitive

- Explores objects in many different ways (shaking, banging, throwing, dropping)
- Finds hidden objects easily
- Looks at correct picture when the image is named
- Imitates gestures
- Begins to use objects correctly (drinking from cup, brushing hair, dialing phone, listening to receiver)

Language

- Pays increasing attention to speech
- Responds to simple verbal requests
- Responds to "no"
- Uses simple gestures, such as shaking head for "no"
- Babbles with inflection(changes in tones)
- Says "Dada" and "Mama"
- Uses exclamations, such as "Uh-Oh"
- Tries to imitate words

Movement

- Reaches sitting position without assistance
- Crawls forward on belly
- Assumes hands-and-knees position
- Creeps on hands and knees
- Gets from sitting to crawling or prone (lying on stomach) position
- Pulls self up to stand

- Walks holding onto furniture
- Stands momentarily without support
- May walk two or three steps without support

Hands and Fingers Skills

- Uses pincer grasp
- Bangs two objects together
- Put objects into container
- Takes objects out of container
- Lets objects go voluntarily
- Pokes with index finger
- Tries to imitate scribbling

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.

- Does not crawl
- Drags one side of body while crawling (for over one month)
- Cannot stand without support
- Does not search for objects that are hidden while he or she watches
- Says no single words("Mama" or "Dada")
- Does not learn to use gestures, such as waving or shaking hands
- Does not point to objects or pictures
- Experiences a dramatic loss of skill he or she once had

-Children develop at their own pace, so it is impossible to tell exactly when yours will learn a given skill. The developmental milestones below will give you a general idea of the changes you can expect as you child gets older, but don't be alarmed if you child takes a slightly different course.

Adapted from the New Jersey's Early Intervention Center