

MILESTONES: Birth to 18 Months



2 months

- Looks at your face
- Happiness when you walk up to baby
- Smiles when spoken to
- Returns smile

- Makes sounds other than crying
- Reacts to loud noise

- Watches you as you move
- Tracks toy

- Holds head up while on tummy
- Opens hands briefly
- Moves both hands and legs



4 months

- Smiles independently to get attention
- Looks at you, moves or makes sound for attention

- Makes cooing sounds
- Vocalizes back to you
Turns head toward sound of your voice

- Opens mouth when food is presented
- Studies hands

- Holds head steady
- Grasps toy
- Uses arms to bat toys
Brings hand to mouth
Pushes to elbows when on tummy

6 months

- Knows familiar people
- Likes to look in mirror
- Laughs

- Takes turns making sounds with you
- Blows raspberries
- Makes squealing sounds

- Put things in mouth to explore
- Reaches to grab a toy
- Closes lips to refuse food

- Rolls from tummy to back
- Pushes up with straight arms on tummy
- Tri-pod sit with arms



9 months

- Is shy, clingy, or fearful around strangers
- Shows several facial expressions
- Looks when you call his/her name
- Reacts when you leave
- Smiles or laughs during games

- Makes different sounds (“babababa”)
- Lifts arms to be picked up

- Looks for object when dropped
- Bangs two things together

- Moves to sit independently
- Moves things from hand to hand
- Uses finger to rake objects
- Sits without support



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12 months

- Plays games with you
- Waves “bye-bye”
- Uses “mama” or “dada” for parents
- Understands “no”

- Puts something larger in a container
- Looks for hidden objects

- Pulls to stand
- Walk holding onto furniture
- Drinks from cup without lid
- Picks things up with thumb and finger pinch



15 months

- Copies other children in play
- Points to objects
- Claps when excited
- Hugs doll or toy
- Shows affection

- 2-3 words
- Looks at object when named

- Follows directional gestures
- Points to ask for help

- Tries to use objects for tasks (ex: book)
- Stacks at least two small objects

- Takes a few steps on own
- Feeds self with fingers



18 months

- Moves away from you, but wants you close
- Points to objects of interest
- Looks at a few pages in book with you
- Mimics patterns (ex: washing hands)
- Helps you dress him/her

- 3-5 words
- Follows one-step verbal directions

- Copies you doing chores
- Plays with toys

- Walks without help
- Scribbles
- Self feeds
- Tries to use utensils
- Climbs on low objects without help

