Is Your Child on Track?

Birth - 2 Months

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Skill Areas	Typical Development	Red Flags
Posture/ Gross Motor	 Has little to no voluntary control over body and often looks "floppy" Begins to turn head side to side and kick legs when lying on back Is beginning to support his/her own head Begins to place slight weight on arms and lift head to 45 degrees when lying on stomach 	 Appears very stiff Does not begin to move head, arms and legs when fully supported Does not like being placed on stomach Can't lift head when on stomach
Fine Motor	 Random motions with no pattern Grasps reflexively when object is put in hand Tightly fisted hands begin to open 	 Arms are locked in fixed position when placed on back Fingers remain tightly fisted
Sensory	 Cries when uncomfortable (hungry, wet, tired etc.) Startles to unexpected noises and people approaching quickly Briefly regards objects with strong contrast (e.g. black /white) Eyes begins to follow an object that is moving 	 Is inconsolable for much of day and night Strong startle responses, remains inconsolable Resists cuddling, arches away when held Becomes very upset when moved
Eating	 Breast and/or bottle feeding developing without difficulties that impact nutritional intake Coordinates sucking, swallowing and breathing 	 Difficulty latching on; poor suck; taking long time to feed
Self Care/ Sleep	Completely dependent on primary caregiversBeginning to develop patterns of sleeping and eating	 Excess fussing with bathing and/or diapering
Speech & Language	 Startle response to sounds Quieted by human voice, especially mother's Frequently coos, gurgles, and makes pleasure sounds Uses a different cry to express different needs 	 Does not have startle response to sound source and/or overreacts
Social/ Play	 Regards caregivers Demands personal attention Enjoys being picked up; quiets when picked up Enjoys interactions of short duration with caregiver 	 Averts gaze in most social interactions Does not show pleasure in interacting with people

Is Your Child on Track?

2 - 4 Months



Skill Areas	Typical Development	Red Flags
Posture/ Gross Motor	 Is able to control head movements and turn head from side to side Legs kick simultaneously when lying on back Begins to extend back and lift head (90 degrees) when lying on stomach Begins to bear weight on forearms when on stomach 	 Control of head and neck is extremely limited Strength and control are not increasing Not tolerating tummy time
Fine Motor	 Begins to reach for objects presented in front of them May be able to hold objects for a short period of time Brings toys and objects to mouth if put in hand Looks at hands with interest 	 Hands remain fisted most of the time Hands are not meeting at midline of body
Sensory	 Has developed predictable quiet and fussy times during the day Tolerates various positions and environments Occupies self for short periods of time Watches or follows people and objects as they move 	 Inconsolable for much of day and night Over stimulates easily with excess noise or people Intolerant of being put down or resists being cuddled Not following moving toy or person with eyes
Eating	 Breast and/or bottle feeding established without difficulty Suckles very well; may lose some liquid as voluntary control improves 	 Takes longer than 15 minutes to take bottle or breast
Self Care/ Sleep	Completely dependent on primary caregiversBegins to establish a regular sleeping pattern	 Excess fussing with bathing and/or diapering
Speech & Language	 Localizes sound by turning head to source Smiles when spoken to Varies cry to express different needs 	 Does not turn head towards sound source Does not smile at caregiver Is not making cooing noises
Social/ Play	 Smiles spontaneously and at familiar people Longer endurance for simple interactions with caregivers Laughs and smiles during physical play Looks at you, moves, or makes sounds to get your attention 	• Does not show obvious pleasure in interacting with people

Is Your Child on Track? 4 - 6 Months



Skill Areas	Typical Development	Red Flags
Posture/ Gross Motor	 Aligns head with body when pulled to sitting Brings hands to feet and feet to mouth when lying on back Raises head and chest to 90 degrees bearing weight on extended arms when on stomach Begins to roll from stomach to back Sits with support and independent sitting emerges 	 Head control poor Not actively moving when placed on stomach or back Not tolerating tummy time Not bearing weight on arms
Fine Motor	 Actively reaching with both hands Looks at object and reaches accurately Picks up small objects with whole hand Beginning to use thumb when grasping objects 	 Not actively reaching Is not focusing eyes to accurately reach Not bringing hands to midline of body
Sensory	 Can regulate self for longer periods of time in various positions and environments Is curious and explores through motor activities Follows objects well with eyes 	 Is inconsolable most of the time Wants to be carried constantly or resists cuddling Over stimulates easily in social situations Seems uninterested in exploration
Eating	Breast and/or bottle feeding well establishedBeginning to eat pureed cereals/baby foods (5 months)	 Significant gagging or total refusal with introduction of new foods
Self Care/ Sleep	 Is still completely dependent on primary caregivers Differentiates day and night. Can sleep 8-10 hours without eating 	 Excess fussing with bathing, and/or diapering
Speech & Language	 Listens to speech Vocalizes displeasure Discriminates between strangers and familiar people Babbles a string of consonants (bababa) (6 months) Uses p / b / m sounds when babbling Varies pitch and volume 	 Do not indicate through sound or gesture that they want or dislike something Babbling does not contain vowels or consonant sounds
Social/ Play	 Smiles when spoken to Smiles at image in mirror Smiles and reaches towards familiar people Enjoys varied interactions Beginning to enjoy simple games (peek-a-boo) 	 Not showing pleasure interacting with people Does not show interest in interactive games