

**6 MONTHS**

Responds to own name.

Mimics sounds.

Likes to play with others, especially parents.

# early steps


**12 MONTHS (1 YEAR)**

Uses simple gestures: shaking head “no” or waving “bye-bye.”

Says “mama” and “dada” & phrases like “uh-oh!”

Responds to simple spoken requests.

Look for  
these things  
as your child  
grows.


**18 MONTHS (1½ YEARS)**

Plays simple pretend, like feeding a doll.

Points to show others something interesting.

Shows a full range of emotions: happy, sad, angry.

**24 MONTHS (2 YEARS)**

Says sentences with 2–4 words.

Gets excited with other children.

Points to things or pictures when they are named.

Children are  
always learning!


**36 MONTHS (3 YEARS)**

Shows affection for friends without prompting.


Carries on a conversation using 2–3 sentences.

Plays make-believe with dolls, animals & people.

Adapted from: [www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/downloads.html](http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/downloads.html).



If you have any concerns,  
talk to your health care provider,  
or call Early Steps.



1-800-218-0001 • [www.earlystepsdirectory.com](http://www.earlystepsdirectory.com)