



Infant Development Stage

Understanding your child starts with knowing which behaviors are typical for his or her age.

Please note: Every child is different and may not follow exactly these milestones. This information is just a guide for “average development.” If you have any concerns about your child’s development, please talk to your doctor.

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Birth – 1 Month	1 – 4 Months
Moves head from side to side	Grasps objects with finger
Sees objects up to 10 – 12 inches away	Lifts head for short periods of time
	Smiles more in responding to you

4 – 6 Months	6 – 12 Months
Visually recognizes people from a distance	Moves objects from one hand to the other
Recognizes voices and sounds	Rolls over in both directions
Shows interest in — new things, such as new colors, shapes, and sounds	Sits on own
Sits with some support	Can stand and may do some walking
	Crawls

SOCIAL AND INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENT

Before 6 Months	6 – 12 Months
Identified familiar adult	Recognizes him/herself in a mirror
Recognizes his/her parents	Responds to his/her name
Shows basic emotions like happiness, sadness, or anger	Prefers known caregivers
Explores objects with the mouth and hands	Uses hand to communicate
Calms down when comforted	Understands simple language (and may say first words)
	Imitates others and enjoys positive responses

Citation: Sherman, M.D., Bowling, U., & Anderson, J., & Wyche, K. (2011). Veteran Parenting Toolkit. South Central Mental Illness Research, Education and Clinical Center (MIRECC) and Oklahoma City VA Medical Center. Oklahoma City, OK. www.ouhsc.edu/VetParenting