

## Your Child's Early Development

As they grow, children are always learning new things. Below are just some of the things you should look for as your child grows. Use this as a guide, and if you have any concerns, talk with your child's doctor and contact BabyNet to get connected with your community's early childhood intervention system.

### Birth-6 months, many children:

- respond to own name
- respond to other people's emotions and often seem happy
- sit without support for a short time

### 9-12 months, many children:

- use simple gestures, like shaking head "no" or waving "bye-bye"
- pull up to stand
- say "mama" and "dada" and exclamations like "uh-oh!"

### 12-18 months, many children:

- play simple pretend, such as feeding a doll
- walk without help
- look at something you point to and say, "look!"

### 18-24 months, many children:

- say phrases with 2 to 4 words
- follow simple instructions
- point to things or pictures when they are named

### 24-36 months, many children:

- use 4 to 5-word sentences
- climb well
- play make-believe with dolls, animals and people

## Partners

BabyNet is funded through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, is managed by the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, and coordinates with many state agencies and organizations, including:

- Department of Disabilities and Special Needs
- Department of Mental Health
- Department of Social Services
- Family Connection of SC
- Head Start
- Early Head Start
- School for the Deaf and the Blind
- South Carolina Department of Education-Office of Special Education Services
- South Carolina First Steps to School Readiness
- University of South Carolina



## Growing Up is a Journey

Some children just need a little extra help getting started.

## BabyNet can help.

For more information  
or to make a REFERRAL to  
BabyNet, visit  
<https://babynet.scdhhs.gov>  
or call (866) 512-8881.

## The Early Years Matter

The first three years are a very important time in every child's life. The way a child learns and develops during this time can make a big difference in the way that he or she will do later in school and on into their adult life.

If you have concerns about a child's ability to think, talk, see, hear, play or move, it is important to get some extra help as early as possible.

## What is BabyNet?

**BabyNet** is South Carolina's system of services for infants and toddlers birth to 3 years of age who have developmental delays or have conditions associated with developmental delays.

**BabyNet** will provide families with the services and information they need to be the best possible teachers and caregivers for their children. BabyNet services are provided at no cost to the family. The amount or type of services provided will vary based on the individual needs of the child and the family's priorities and concerns. Services include home activities that will help parents and caregivers learn ways that they can help their child to succeed to the best of their ability.



## The Role of the Family

Recognize the critical role you and other caregivers play in your child's development.

- Share your interests, priorities, needs, and questions with your interventionists
- Set goals based on how your child's progress fits with what is important to your family
- Learn from the team so you can work with your child during your family's everyday routines between visits from the interventionists



## The Role of the Intervention Team

Use child and family interests as the foundation for intervention.

- Partner with parents and other caregivers to support children as they learn and grow
  - Focus on enhancing child participation in existing and desired family, community and early childhood experiences
  - Work together so that each team member's expertise will be used to help parents meet the goals they have for their child's development
- Help families find answers to their tough questions

## Things to Know About Early Intervention

- Infants and toddlers learn best through everyday experiences and interactions with familiar people in familiar settings.
  - All families, with the necessary supports and services can enhance their children's learning and development.
    - The primary role of a service provider in early intervention is to work with and support family members and caregivers in children's lives.
    - The early intervention process, from initial contacts through transition, must be individualized to reflect the child's and family members' preferences, learning styles and cultural beliefs.
- Individualized family service plan (IFSP) outcomes must be functional and based on children's and families' needs and family-identified priorities.
- Interventions with young children and family members must be based on readability principles, evidenced-based practices, best available research and relevant laws and regulations.