YOUR BABY AT 18 MONTHS

How your child plays, learns, speaks, and acts offers important clues about your child's development. Developmental milestones are things most children can do by a certain age.

Child's Name **Child's Age** **Today's Date**

Check the milestones your child has reached by the end of 18 months. Take this with you and talk with your child's doctor at every visit about the milestones your child has reached and what to expect next.

WHAT MOST BABIES DO AT THIS AGE:

SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL

- ☐ Likes to hand things to others as play
- ☐ May have temper tantrums
- ☐ May be afraid of strangers
- ☐ Shows affection to familiar people
- ☐ Plays simple pretend, such as feeding a doll
- ☐ May cling to caregivers in new situations
- ☐ Points to show others something interesting
- ☐ Explores alone but with parent close by

LANGUAGE/COMMUNICATION

- ☐ Says several single words
- ☐ Says and shakes head "no"
- ☐ Points to show someone what they want

COGNITIVE (learning, thinking, problem-solving)

- ☐ Knows what ordinary things are for; for example, telephone, brush, spoon
- ☐ Points to get the attention of others
- ☐ Shows interest in a doll or stuffed animal by pretending to feed
- ☐ Points to one body part
- ☐ Scribbles on their own
- ☐ Can follow 1-step verbal commands without any gestures; for example, sits when you say "sit down"

MOVEMENT/PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

- ☐ Walks alone
- ☐ May walk up steps and run
- ☐ Pulls toys while walking
- ☐ Can help undress themself
- ☐ Drinks from a cup
- ☐ Eats with a spoon

Act Early by Talking to Your Child's Doctor if Your Child:

- ☐ Doesn't point to show things to others
- ☐ Can't walk
- ☐ Doesn't know what familiar things are for
- ☐ Doesn't copy others
- ☐ Doesn't gain new words
- ☐ Doesn't have at least 6 words
- ☐ Doesn't notice or mind when a caregiver leaves or returns
- ☐ Loses skills they once had

Tell your child's doctor or nurse if you notice any of these signs of possible developmental delay for this age, and talk with someone in your community who is familiar with services for young children in your area, call 1-800-EarlyOn, or visit 1800earlyon.org. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that children be screened for general development and autism at the 18-month visit. Ask your child's doctor about your child's developmental screening.

Steps
Great strides begin with small steps.

MICHIGAN Department of Education

For more information, go to
www.michigan.gov/mikidsmatter

Information provided by The CDC. Adapted from CARING FOR YOUR BABY AND YOUNG CHILD: BIRTH TO AGE 5, Fifth Edition, edited by Steven Shelov and Tanya Remer Altmann © 1991, 1993, 1998, 2004, 2009 by the American Academy of Pediatrics and BRIGHT FUTURES: GUIDELINES FOR HEALTH SUPERVISION OF INFANTS, CHILDREN, AND ADOLESCENTS, Third Edition, edited by Joseph Hagan, Jr., Judith S. Shaw, and Paula M. Duncan, 2008, Elk Grove Village, IL: American Academy of Pediatrics. This milestone checklist is not a substitute for a standardized, validated developmental screening tool.

Individuals with disabilities may contact the MiLEAP ADA Coordinator to request an alternative format to these materials. Please visit www.michigan.gov/ADA for a list of state ADA Coordinators.