

YOUR BABY AT 2 YEARS

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 their 2nd birthday. 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

- Copies others, especially adults and older children
- Gets excited when with other children
- Shows more and more independence
- Shows defiant behavior (doing what they have been told not to)
- Plays mainly beside other children, but is beginning to include other children, such as in chase games



LANGUAGE/COMMUNICATION

- Points to things or pictures when they are named
- Knows names of familiar people and body parts
- Says sentences with 2 to 4 words
- Follows simple instructions
- Repeats words overheard in conversation
- Points to things in a book



COGNITIVE (learning, thinking, problem-solving)

- Finds things even when hidden under two or three covers
- Begins to sort shapes and colors
- Completes sentences and rhymes in familiar books
- Plays simple make-believe games
- Builds towers of 4 or more blocks
- Might use one hand more than the other
- Follows two-step instructions such as "Pick up your shoes and put them in the closet."
- Names items in a picture book such as a cat, bird, or dog



MOVEMENT/PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

- Stands on tiptoe
- Kicks a ball
- Begins to run

- Climbs onto and down from furniture without help
- Walks up and down stairs holding on

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

- Doesn't use 2-word phrases (for example, "drink milk")
- Doesn't know what to do with common things, like a brush, phone, fork, spoon
- Doesn't copy actions and words
- Doesn't follow simple instructions
- Doesn't walk steadily
- 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 24-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