

# YOUR BABY AT 4 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 4 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

- Smiles spontaneously, especially at people
- Likes to play with people and might cry when playing stops
- Copies some movements and facial expressions, like smiling or frowning



### LANGUAGE/COMMUNICATION

- Begins to babble
- Babbles with expression and copies sounds they hear
- Cries in different ways to show hunger, pain, or being tired



### COGNITIVE (learning, thinking, problem-solving)

- Lets you know if they are happy or sad
- Responds to affection
- Reaches for toy with one hand
- Uses hands and eyes together, such as seeing a toy and reaching for it
- Follows moving things with eyes from side to side
- Watches faces closely
- Recognizes familiar people and things at a distance



### MOVEMENT/PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

- Holds head steady, unsupported
- Pushes down on legs when feet are on a hard surface
- May be able to roll over from tummy to back
- Can hold a toy and shake it and swing at dangling toys
- Brings hands to mouth

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

- Doesn't watch things as they move
- Doesn't smile at people
- Can't hold head steady
- Doesn't coo or make sounds
- Doesn't bring things to mouth
- Doesn't push down with legs when feet are placed on a hard surface
- Has trouble moving one or both eyes in all directions

**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](http://1800earlyon.org).

**Steps**  
Great strides begin with small steps.

**MICHIGAN**  
Department of **Education**

For more information, go to  
[www.michigan.gov/mikidsmatter](http://www.michigan.gov/mikidsmatter)