

# YOUR BABY AT 9 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 9 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

- May be afraid of strangers
- May be clingy with familiar adults
- Has favorite toys



### LANGUAGE/COMMUNICATION

- Understands "no"
- Makes a lot of different sounds like "mamamama" and "bababababa"
- Copies sounds and gestures of others
- Uses fingers to point at things



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

- Watches the path of something as it falls
- Looks for things they see you hide
- Plays peek-a-boo
- Puts things in their mouth
- Moves things smoothly from one hand to the other
- Picks up things like cereal o's between thumb and index finger



### MOVEMENT/PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

- Stands, holding on
- Can get into sitting position
- Sits without support
- Pulls to stand
- Crawls

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

- Doesn't bear weight on legs with support
- Doesn't sit with help
- Doesn't babble ("mama", "baba", "dada")
- Doesn't play any games involving back-and-forth play
- Doesn't respond to own name
- Doesn't seem to recognize familiar people
- Doesn't look where you point
- Doesn't transfer toys from one hand to the other

**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)