



Milestones Matter

Your Baby at 6 Months

How your baby plays, learns, speaks, acts and moves offers important clues about his or her development.

What Most Babies Do by 6 Months

Social/Emotional

- Know familiar faces and begin to know if someone is a stranger
- Like to play with others, especially parents
- Respond to other people's emotions
- Like to look at self in mirror

Hearing/Language

- Respond to sounds by making sounds
- String vowels together when babbling ("ah," "eh," "oh")
- Respond to own name
- Make sounds to show joy and displeasure
- Begin to say consonant sounds
- Move their eyes in the direction of sound

Cognitive (learning, thinking, problem-solving)

- Look around at things nearby
- Bring things to mouth
- Show curiosity about things and try to get things that are out of reach
- Begin to pass things from one hand to the other

Movement/Physical Development

- Roll over in both directions
- Begin to sit without support
- Support weight on legs and might bounce
- Rock back and forth

You Know Your Baby Best

It's important to act right away if you have concerns about the way your child plays, learns, speaks, acts or moves, or if your child:

- Is missing milestones
- Doesn't try to get things that are in reach
- Shows no affection for caregivers
- Doesn't respond to sounds around him
- Has difficulty getting things to mouth
- Doesn't make vowel sounds
- Doesn't roll over in either direction
- Doesn't laugh or make squealing sounds
- Seems very stiff, with tight muscles
- Seems very floppy, like a rag doll

You Can Help Your Baby Learn and Grow

Here are some activities to enjoy with your baby.

- Play on the floor with him every day
- Learn to read her moods
- Show him how to comfort himself
- Use "reciprocal" play - when she smiles, you smile
- Repeat his sounds and say simple words
- Read colorful picture books to him every day
- When she looks at something, talk about it
- When he drops a toy, pick it up and give it back
- Point out new things to him and name them
- Hold her up while she sits; give her toys to look at while she balances
- Put him on his tummy or back and encourage him to reach for the toys in front of him

This information was adapted with permission from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's milestone checklists and tips.

<https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/milestones/index.html>

If you have any concerns about your child's hearing or development, it is important to act early. It can make a big difference! You can talk to your child's pediatrician, call your child's school district or area educational agency, or schedule a clinical hearing, speech-language, or developmental evaluation.

Clinical Evaluations

Boys Town National Research Hospital offers pediatric hearing evaluations. Call 531-355-6540 to schedule an appointment at the Downtown location or 531-355-6800 to schedule an appointment at the West location.

Boys Town National Research Hospital - Downtown
555 N. 30th St., Omaha, NE 68131

Boys Town National Research Hospital - West
14000 Boys Town Hospital Rd., Boys Town, NE 68010

Boys Town National Research Hospital offers speech-language evaluations and therapy for children with communication concerns. Call 531-355-5087 to schedule an appointment.

Boys Town National Research Hospital - Downtown
555 N. 30th St., Omaha, NE 68131

Boys Town Speech-Language Clinic
14015 Flanagan Blvd., Suite 101, Boys Town, NE 68010

Boys Town Center for Behavioral Health offers services for children with behavioral or social-emotional concerns. Call 531.355.3358 to schedule an appointment.

Boys Town Center for Behavioral Health
13460 Walsh Dr., Boys Town, NE 68010

Educational Evaluations

Your child may qualify for a free assessment through the school district or area educational agency in which you reside, some of which are listed below. For more information, you can also contact Nebraska ChildFind at 1-888-806-6287 or Iowa Early Access at 1-888-IAKIDS1.

Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools
402-944-7083

Gretna Public Schools
402-332-3265

Bellevue Public Schools
402-293-4000

Millard Public Schools
402-715-8302

Bennington Public Schools
402-238-3044

Northwest Area Educational Agency
712-222-6050

DC West Community Schools
402-359-2583

Omaha Public Schools
531-299-0242

Elkhorn Public Schools
402-289-2579 ext. 11000

Papillion-La Vista Community Schools
402-514-3243

Fremont Public Schools
402-727-3084

Westside Community Schools
402-390-2100

