

Skills Babies Should Develop During Their First Year

Birth to 3 Months:

- Startles to loud sounds
- Recognizes your voice and quits crying
- Quiets or smiles when spoken to
- Increases or decreases sucking behavior in response to sound
- Coos and makes pleasure sounds
- Cries differently for different needs
- Smiles when see you

4 to 6 Months:

- Moves eyes in direction of sounds
- Notices toys that make sounds
- Babbles in a speech-like way and uses many different sounds including "p", "b", and "m"
- Vocalizes excitement and displeasure
- Makes gurgling sounds when alone or playing with you

7 Months to 1 Year:

- Enjoys playing peek-a-boo and pat-a-cake
- Turns head and looks in the direction of sounds
- Pays attention when spoken to
- Understands words for common items such as "cup", "shoe", "book", "juice"
- Responds to requests such as "Come to Mommy" or "Want more?"
- Babbles to get and keep your attention
- Babbles using long and short groups of sounds such as "baba", "mamama"
- Communicates using gestures such as waiving "bye-bye" or holding up arms to be picked up
- Imitates different speech sounds
- Says one or two words such as "Hi", "dog", "Dada", "Mama" around first birthday

Where else can I get information about newborn hearing screening or about things a baby with normal hearing should be able to do?

- Visit the website www.babyhearing.org



Children's Medical Services Newborn Hearing Screening Program

Toll free at 1-877-890-4692 or
1-505-476-8862

Your Baby's Hearing Screen



*Finding hearing loss
early can make a big
difference in your
baby's life!*



Why should my baby's hearing be screened?

- Hearing loss is the most common condition present at birth.
- As many as 3-4 babies in 1,000 have a significant hearing loss that will not improve with age.
- Hearing screening is safe and painless.

What if my baby does not pass the hearing screen?

Some babies do not pass because of:

- Fluid in the ear
- Baby was moving a lot
- Noise in testing room
- Baby has a hearing loss.

If my baby does not pass the hospital hearing screening, why is it important for my baby to have another hearing screen or an audiological evaluation as soon as possible?

- Testing is the only way to know if your baby has a hearing loss.
- The earlier a hearing loss is found, the better it is for a baby.

How can I set up an appointment for my baby?

- Talk with your baby's doctor at the 2-4 day old well baby check and ask the doctor to schedule an outpatient hearing screen at the hospital (if available) or with an audiologist experienced in testing babies (pediatric audiologist).
- Your baby should have the outpatient hearing screen completed by the well baby check at 1 month of age.

What if my baby does not pass the outpatient hearing screen?

- Ask your baby's doctor to schedule an appointment for an audiological evaluation with a pediatric audiologist.
- The audiological evaluation should be completed by the well baby check at 3 months of age.



Could my baby pass the hearing screen and still have a hearing loss?

- Yes, some babies hear well enough to pass the hearing screen, but lose their hearing later because of: some illnesses, some medicines, some injuries, a family history of hearing loss.
- Watch for any signs of hearing loss as your baby grows.
- Any time you have questions or concerns about your child's hearing, talk with your baby's doctor and ask for a referral to a pediatric audiologist.

What should I do if my baby has a hearing loss ?

- Contact the State Newborn Hearing Screening Program at 1-877-890-4692 for information
- Enroll in the Step*Hi Early Intervention Program. Contact Joanne Corwin, Coordinator, at 505-275-5433
- Contact NM Hands and Voices at www.hvnm.org
- Learn about communication programs such as the PEI Oral School. Call 505-224-7020
- Discuss use of Hearing Aids and availability of loaner hearing aids with your child's audiologist
- Learn about FM systems, Cochlear Implants, etc.