



Developmental Milestones (18-24 months)






Patient Factsheet

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What is it?

GPs use milestones to track your child's development. Milestones are the skills and tasks children can do at different ages.

If your child is not meeting one or more milestones, there may be a cause for concern. See the developmental concerns in children factsheet for more information and supports.

DOMAIN	MILESTONE	NEEDS ASSESSMENT
Fine Motor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opens containers to get toys • Can stack small blocks • Copies actions • Scribbles on paper making vertical and horizontal lines • Plays with dolls and teddies e.g. give a drink, wash face or put to bed, push a car 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clumsy with stacking blocks • Unable to copy or draw a vertical line • Not interested in using pencil, no attempts at scribbling
Gross Motor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walks up and down steps, holding on • Jumps two feet together • Throws a ball • Runs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unable to stand alone or walk • Unsteady or uneven gait / walking pattern • Can't kick a ball
Speech & Language 	<p>Feeding: eats most adult foods without difficulty</p> <p>Communication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understands the description of what objects are for e.g. "where's the one we sit on" • Refers to self by name • Can say about 50 to 200 words and makes two to three word sentences • Follows two-word instructions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited vocabulary: less than 10 words • No combination of words into sentences • Most of what is said is not easily understood • Confused by short sentences • Understands less than 10-20 words • Not interested in books and stories
Social Skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plays side by side with same age friend • Identifies many body parts • Helps with dressing and undressing • Helps around the house with simple tasks • Uses a spoon • Shows early imaginative play 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No interest in personal skills like dressing and undressing • No interest in helping in social or household activities • No interest in learning to feed self • Play is not imaginative / representative: just pushing, dropping, hitting objects • No sense of who they are • Does not respond to parent's attempt to soothe
Cognitive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opens screw toy • Does puzzle with three items and shapes • Copies familiar or recent experience in play e.g., teddy goes to a doctor • Uses one object to stand for another like a block for a car 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No success or persistence to complete simple puzzle with 1 to 2 objects • Play is physical and repetitive with little pretending • Limited range of interest and activities in play

