Typical Development Milestones

The following guidelines are to help parents assess the development of their child, although each child’s rate of development varies. If you have concerns about your child’s development, please contact your physician and/or Easterseals-Goodwill Provo Early Intervention Program.

NEWBORN
- Strong suckle
- Hand closes tight on contact
- Makes small throaty noises
- On stomach, lifts head

1-3 MONTHS
- Smiles in response to your smile
- Hands held open most of the time
- Looks at someone talking
- Special cry for hunger
- On stomach, pushes up on forearms

3-6 MONTHS
- Babbles during play
- Reaches for nearby toy
- Turns head freely to look around
- Puts both hands on bottle or breast while feeding

6-9 MONTHS
- Recognizes two common objects when named
- Waves “Hi” and “Bye bye”
- Rolls over/Sits with support
- Transfers toy from hand to hand
- Turns head toward sounds
- Holds, sucks and bites crackers

9-12 MONTHS
- Finger feeds
- Repeats action when adult laughs
- Flings objects
- Picks up objects with thumb and first finger
- Creeps / crawls
- Side steps holding onto furniture
12-15 MONTHS
• Stops drooling
• Scribbles spontaneously
• Uses three to five words plus “Mama” or “Dada”

15-18 MONTHS
• Uses spoon, spilling little
• Removes hat, socks
• Inserts object into small opening
• Points to eyes, nose, or mouth of a doll
• Uses words to make needs known
• Runs stiffly

18-24 MONTHS
• Defends own possessions
• Turns thick pages of a book
• Imitates two and three words sentences
• Pulls toys, throws balls, and builds towers
• Drinks from a cup held with both hands

24-30 MONTHS
• Washes and dries own hands
• Carries out two-part commands
• Walks up and down stairs holding on
• Says at least 50 words and uses pronouns
• Points to and names objects in a book

30-36 MONTHS
• Matches three simple items
• Identifies some big and little objects
• Relates recent experiences
• Pedals wheeled toy

3 YEARS
• Jumps lifting both feet off the ground
• Copies a circle and counts to five
• Uses three words in a sentence
• Knows most body parts
• Plays by self or next to other children