

Learn the Signs. Act Early.



Act Early Ambassadors and Parent Centers: Collaborating to Promote Developmental Health of Young Children

February 6, 2018

Julia Abercrombie, MPH, Behavioral Scientist
National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Disclaimer: The findings and conclusions in this presentation are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



Learn the Signs. Act Early.



Improve early identification of developmental disabilities, including autism, so children and their families can get the services and support they need as early as possible

Materials ● Research and Evaluation ● “Act Early” Initiatives

Learn the Signs. Act Early. Materials

Your Baby at 9 Months

Check the Basics

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. Check the milestones your child has reached by the end of 9 months. Take this with you and take with your child's doctor at every visit so the milestone 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 angry with familiar adults
- May have tantrums

Language/Communication

- Understands "no"
- Makes use of different sounds like "mama" and "dada"
- Looks at people and pictures of others
- Uses fingers to point at things

Cognitive/Thinking, problem-solving

- Matches the path of something and falls
- Looks for things to move you know
- Plays peek-a-boo
- Follows things that move
- Moves things around but can't take them apart
- Plays with things like blocks or beads and string

Motor/Physical Development

- Stands holding on
- Can get into sitting position
- Can without support
- Throws a object
- Claps

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

- Doesn't show signs of social play
- Doesn't talk or babble
- Doesn't follow you when you say "no"
- Doesn't play any games involving back and forth play
- Doesn't respond to your name
- Doesn't seem to enjoy looking at people
- Doesn't look where you point
- Doesn't throw things 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. Tell your doctor or nurse if you notice any of these signs of possible developmental delay for this age. Tell your doctor or nurse if you notice any of these signs of possible developmental delay for this age. Tell your doctor or nurse if you notice any of these signs of possible developmental delay for this age.

www.cdc.gov/actearly | 1-800-CDC-INFO

Learn the Signs. Act Early.

Download CDC's FREE Milestone Tracker App

Track Milestones | Share a Summary | Get Tips & Activities

Learn more at cdc.gov/MilestoneTracker

Concerned about Development? How to Help Your Child

If you're concerned about your child's development, don't wait. Acting early can make a big difference!

Talk with your child's doctor.

You know your child best. If you think your child is not meeting the milestones for his or her age, or if you, your child's teacher, or another care provider is concerned about how your child plays, learns, speaks, acts, or moves, talk with your child's doctor and share your concerns. Don't wait.

Use a milestone checklist

Visit www.cdc.gov/milestones to find the milestone checklist for your child's age. Use it to track your child's development. When the time to talk with the doctor, write down the questions you have and show the doctor the milestone your child has reached and the ones that concern you.

Ask the doctor about developmental screening

Developmental screening happens when the doctor asks you to complete a formal checklist or questionnaire about how your child plays, learns, speaks, acts, or moves. It gives the doctor more information to figure out how best to help your child. Developmental screening is recommended for all children at certain ages or whenever there is a concern. Ask the doctor about your child's developmental screening.

Find more information, including what to say when you make these important calls. What to do while you wait to have your child seen, and how to get support for your family, at www.cdc.gov/actearly.

www.cdc.gov/actearly | 1-800-CDC-INFO

Learn the Signs. Act Early.

WHERE IS BEAR?

A Terrific Tale for 2-Year-Olds

A FREE interactive children's book

cdc.gov/AmazingBooks

Milestone Moments

Learn the Signs. Act Early.

You can follow your child's development by watching how he or she plays, learns, speaks, and acts. Look inside for milestones to watch for in your child and how you can help your child learn and grow.

www.cdc.gov/actearly | 1-800-CDC-INFO

Amazing Me

A free children's book

cdc.gov/AmazingMe

Track Your Child's Developmental Milestones

12 MONTHS (1 YEAR)

18 MONTHS (1 1/2 YEARS)

24 MONTHS (2 YEARS)

36 MONTHS (3 YEARS)

48 MONTHS (4 YEARS)

Learn the Signs. Act Early.

Learn the Signs. Act Early.

www.cdc.gov/ActEarly

Act Early Ambassadors

- ❑ Serve as state or territory point-of-contact for the national LTSAE program
- ❑ Support the work of Act Early Teams and other state/territorial or national initiatives to improve early identification of developmental delay and disability
- ❑ Promote the LTSAE resources, including materials to support developmental monitoring and professional education tools



Who Are the Act Early Ambassadors?

55 state and territory champions to increase awareness and improve early identification practices



Find Ambassador Contacts

www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/ambassadors-list.html



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

SEARCH



CDC A-Z INDEX ▾

Learn the Signs. Act Early.

Learn the Signs Home

Milestones



Milestone Tracker App

Milestones in Action: Photos & Videos



If You're Concerned



Free Materials



Multimedia & Tools



Families



Healthcare Providers



Early Childhood Educators



WIC and Family Service Providers

Partners



About the Program



[Learn the Signs Home](#) > [About the Program](#) > [Act Early Initiative](#)

Act Early Ambassadors



Act Early Ambassadors expand the reach of the "Learn the Signs. Act Early." program and support their respective state's work toward improving early identification of developmental delays and disabilities, including autism.

Since 2011, professionals with medical, child development, developmental disability, special education, and early intervention expertise have been selected to

- Serve as a state or territorial point-of-contact for the national "Learn the Signs. Act Early." program;
- Support the work of Act Early Teams and other state/territorial or national initiatives to improve early identification of developmental delay and disability; and
- Promote the adoption and integration of "Learn the Signs. Act Early." resources into systems that serve young children and their families.

See how Ambassadors and others across the nation are [promoting early identification of delays and disabilities using LTSAE](#).



Learn the Signs. Act Early.
Ambassadors

Learn the Signs. Act Early.

www.cdc.gov/ActEarly

Ambassadors and Parent Centers

How Ambassadors and Parent Centers are working together to support parents and improve early identification

- ❑ Information sharing and making referrals to each other
- ❑ Serving on committees together
- ❑ Collaborating on grants and training activities
- ❑ Being involved together in Act Early State Teams
- ❑ Sharing and disseminating each other's information
- ❑ Co-developing resources
- ❑ Having formal relationships--contracts or other relationships with each other's organizations