



## Developmental Characteristics For Infants

A child who is newborn to 12 months of age develops and grows rapidly. Developmental care is very important at this time. Infants need to be held, loved, and talked to in order to provide them with a safe and healthy environment.

### NEWBORN TO FIVE MONTHS

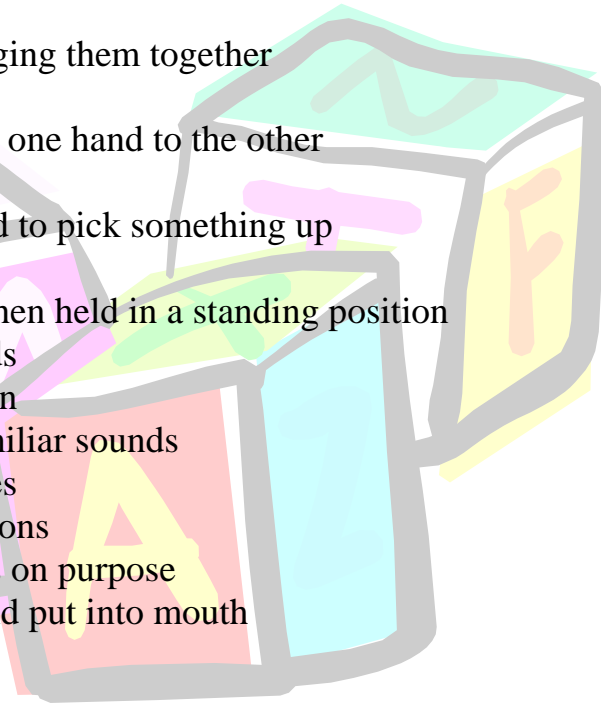
- Feel, taste, smell, and hear
- Move arms and legs in play
- Cry when in need
- Enjoy being held and spoken to
- See things 8'' to 12'' away
- Begin to turn head
- Make eye contact
- look at clear simple pictures or designs
- grasp a small object briefly
- make cooing sounds
- lift head to look around
- Smile
- Follow with eyes from side to side
- Reach toward a toy
- Show happy and sad feelings by making sounds
- Sit supported, head steady
- Turn head toward your voice or other sounds
- Watch your mouth when you talk
- Hold and shake a small toy
- Sees farther than 12 inches away
- Look at hands and feet
- Bats or hit at objects
- Support head and chest with arms when on stomach
- Try to roll over
- Reach out when on stomach
- Watch moving objects
- Answer a sound you make with another sound
- Try to pull up to a sitting position
- Bounce when held in a standing position



- Enjoy looking in a mirror
- Hold something in either hand
- Play peek-a-boo
- recognize familiar people

### FIVE MONTHS TO NINE MONTHS

- Look for objects that are dropped
- Uncover hidden objects
- Drop things on purpose
- Hold a bottle
- Play with paper
- Play with things by banging them together
- Sit in a highchair
- Change something from one hand to the other
- Eat some solid foods
- Reach out with one hand to pick something up
- Sit without support
- Support some weight when held in a standing position
- Babble a string of sounds
- Get into a sitting position
- Begin to copy a few familiar sounds
- Rock on hands and knees
- Copy some familiar actions
- Make noise with objects on purpose
- Pick up small objects and put into mouth
- Feed self finger foods
- Babble to show wants
- Copy some new sounds you make
- Take things out of containers
- Look at pictures when named
- Pick up, push, or shove large things
- Pull a string



### NINE MONTHS TO TWELVE MONTHS

- Understand familiar words
- Pull up to stand but not get down
- Explore what is in a container
- Drop things into a small opening or container
- Wave bye-bye
- Crawl, scoot, creep, or move well from one place to another
- Crawl around and over things
- Crawl while holding something
- Follow a few simple directions
- Poke at holes with a pointing finger
- Look at pictures in a book
- Begin to stoop
- Try to roll a ball
- Babble as if speaking a sentence or asking a question
- Tear paper
- Say a few words, but not perfectly
- Copy new gestures
- Turn a few pages in a hard-page book
- Begin to scribble
- Roll or push a ball
- Spend longer doing one thing than he/she used to
- Make a stack of two blocks
- Show interest in things farther away than he/she used to
- Help pull off simple clothing
- Fit one thing into another
- Know where familiar things are kept

