

SIGNS OF AUTISM

Be aware of the red flags that are indicators of autism.

3 to 4 Years

- Eats on own
- Stacks 9–10 blocks
- Understands 800–1500 words
- Starts asking “why” questions

4 to 5 Years

- Brushes own teeth and laces up shoes
- Knows full name and age
- Speaks about 2000 words
- Counts to 10 and writes 1 through 5

2 to 3 Years

- Speaks 50–200 words; understands 500–900 words
- Removes shoes, socks and pants; unzips zipper
- Uses 2–3 word sentences
- Feeds self with spoon

24 Months

- No meaningful, two-word phrases

16 Months

- No words spoken

12 Months

- No speech, smiling or non-verbal communication
- No babbling or use of gestures to communicate
- No response to name when called

9 Months

- Limited or no eye contact

6 Months

- No social smiles or other joyful expression directed at people

19 Months to 2 Years

- Uses 20–30 words; imitates two-word sentences
- Dances, jumps, runs and kicks
- Points to/names objects in books
- Builds tower of 6–7 blocks

12 to 18 Months

- Stacks two blocks
- Speaks 5–20 words
- Walks with help
- Eats finger foods

7 to 12 Months

- Says “mama” and “dada”
- Recognizes commonly-used words
- Pulls up to standing position
- Points to request something
- Responds to name

4 to 6 Months

- Smiles; laughs; coos when caregiver speaks
- Rolls over and stands with support
- Sits up with support
- Conveys everything to mouth

Birth to 3 Months

- Tracks slow moving objects from 8”–12” away
- Hands and fists are slightly open
- Moves arms and legs smoothly
- Lifts head for a few minutes

DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONES

This timetable is a general guideline of childhood development. It is important to understand that all children develop at individual rates. However, if you feel your child is not developing as expected. We will be happy to speak with you regarding your concerns.

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The Early Intervention Program (EIP) is a public program funded by New York State, Nassau and Suffolk counties, and the NYC Department of Mental Health, and is for children less than three years of age, who have or are suspected of having a developmental delay and/or disability. Eligibility for the EIP can be determined only by State approved evaluators under contract with the municipality. If a child is found eligible for the EIP, all services are identified in collaboration with the family and must be authorized by the municipality. The municipality will arrange for service providers to deliver services authorized by the municipality. All services under the EIP are provided at no out-of-pocket costs to families, but health insurance may be accessed, without affecting your family's benefits. For services provided in community settings that require a fee, the parent is responsible for paying those costs. To access EI services, contact the Nassau County Department of Health at 516-853-3100. To access EI services within New York City, contact the NYC Help Line at 311. Big Apple Children Services Inc. is an approved provider of Early Intervention services under contract with Nassau county, Suffolk county and New York City. The CPSE program is funded and regulated by the NYS Education Department, county and your local school district for children 3–5. Services are provided at no direct cost to families for children who meet eligibility guidelines.

