



Baby Developmental Guide

Physical

- **Gross Motor: Movement and Coordination:** gains control of head and body; easily turns head from side to side while lying on stomach; raises head and chest when lying on stomach; pushes down on legs when feet are placed on a firm surface (walking reflex).
- **Fine Motor:** holds things briefly before dropping; folds hand around finger of another person placed in palm of hand; holds on to ring on cradle gym after hand touches it; begins to hold onto bottle for entire feeding; begins to bring toys or their fingers to mouth; grabs onto own toes.

Social and Emotional

- **Self Concept:** expresses comfort and discomfort; uses specific kinds of cries to signal needs (e.g., hunger or wet); is responsive to adult's attempts to comfort (e.g., relaxes when back is gently rubbed).
- Expresses feelings; makes responses to express how he feels about what is happening and show awareness of how others are feeling (cries when another child cries, frowns when a caregiver looks sad).

Pays attention and responds to name and images of self; pays attention to own reflection in mirror and responds to hearing name called.

- **Self Control:** demonstrates some ability to self-regulate; stops crying upon seeing a familiar person; may be able to calm self (e.g., sucks on hand while going to sleep); looks to a familiar person for encouragement when encountering new experiences (e.g., looks at caregiver for a positive nod or encouraging word).

Begins to relate to other children; sits near another child while playing; smiles at another child; squeals or fusses when another child approaches.

- **Cooperation:** demonstrates awareness of others; begins to watch other children in the group and show interest in their play; shows recognition of familiar people by reaching or smiling.
- Recognizes actions and images of familiar adults; show recognition when family photographs are displayed at eye level; begins to imitate familiar actions (pretends to talk on phone, pretends to stir).

Relational / Spiritual

The beginning of life is an intense experience for both mother and baby and sets the foundation for future interactions.





Pregnancy and childbirth can be considered an initiation that involves the process of transitioning from being childless to becoming a mother. For many parents giving your little one back to God is a major deal. By giving your children back to God you are making a promise to the Lord to do everything within your power to raise your child in a godly way, prayerfully until he or she can make a decision on his or her own to follow God. Parents who make this vow of commitment are instructed to raise their child in the ways of God, and not according to their own ways. Some of the responsibilities include teaching and training the child in God's Word, demonstrating an example of godliness, disciplining according to God's ways, and praying earnestly for the child.

