

# your child: from 6 to 18 months

## From Dependence to Independence: The Most Important Developmental Achievements

### SOCIAL

#### Typically Can:

- Feed self but is still messy
- Imitate others
- Drink out of a cup
- Has no concept of sharing
- Remain "egocentric" and think the world exists for him/her
- Fight limit setting

#### Emerging Skills:

- Pull on pants
- Play alongside another child



### LANGUAGE

#### Typically Can:

- Say a few words by 1 year
- Knows the names of familiar objects like "ball, table, bed, car"
- Understand simple instructions
- Uses jargon speech (babbling that sounds like real speech)

#### Emerging Skills:

- Listen to a story
- Sings songs
- Understand far more words than will say

### GROSS MOTOR

#### Typically Can:

- Walk alone
- Walk up and down stairs with hand held
- Throw a ball
- Sit down from standing
- "Dance" to music
- Ride on small-wheeled toys

#### Emerging Skills:

- Step backwards
- Step sideways
- Begin to run
- Jump and climb
- Seat self on a small chair

## COGNITIVE

### Typically Can:

- Point to body parts
- Begin to pretend play
- Initiate activities
- Realize things exist when they are out-of-sight

### Emerging Skills:

- Distinguish colours and shapes
- Begin to understand the passing of time and the meaning of "when we go home", "not now" and "tomorrow"

## EMOTIONAL

### Typically Can:

- Be very curious and "gets into things"
- Become more of an individual
- Be reluctant to change
- Be subject to mood swings and tantrums

### Emerging Skills:

- Concentrate on a task for some time
- Show concern for others

## FINE MOTOR

### Typically Can:

- Place 10 cubes in a cup
- Grasp items with thumb and forefinger
- Target small objects
- Stack 3-4 blocks
- Turn page of a book
- Scribble
- Fill and empty containers

### Emerging Skills:

- Fold paper
- Attempt simple puzzles
- Imitate a stroke

Adapted from INVEST in KIDS  
Language Portion by North Words

**For More Information**  
**Contact Your Local Northwestern Health Unit Office**  
**or Healthy Babies Healthy Children**  
**Toll Free at 1-800-465-4377**