

Your Baby at 2 Months

Milestones matter! How your child plays, learns, speaks, acts, and moves offers important clues about his or her development. Check the milestones your child has reached by 2 months. Take this with you and talk with your child's doctor at every visit about the milestones your child has reached and what to expect next.

What Most Babies Do by this Age:

Social/Emotional

- ☒ Begins to smile at people
- ☒ Can briefly calm himself (may bring hands to mouth and suck on hand)
- ☒ Tries to look at parent

Language/Communication

- ☒ Coos, makes gurgling sounds
- ☒ Turns head toward sounds

Cognitive (learning, thinking, problem-solving)

- ☒ Pays attention to faces
- ☒ Begins to follow things with eyes and recognise people at a distance
- ☒ Begins to act bored (cries, fussy) if activity doesn't change

Movement/Physical Development

- ☒ Can hold head up and begins to push up when lying on tummy
- ☒ Makes smoother movements with arms and legs

KNOW YOUR CHILD BEST

Act early if you have concerns about the way your child plays, learns, speaks, acts, or moves, or if your child:

- Is missing milestones
- Doesn't respond to loud sounds
- Doesn't watch things as they move
- Doesn't smile at people
- Doesn't bring hands to mouth
- Can't hold head up when pushing up when on tummy

Tell your child's doctor or nurse if you notice any of these signs of possible developmental delay and ask for a developmental screening.

DON'T WAIT.

Acting early can make a real difference

Help Your Baby Learn and Grow

You can help your baby learn and grow. Talk, read, sing, and play together every day. Below are some activities to enjoy with your 2-month-old baby today.

- ☐ Cuddle, talk, and play with your baby during feeding, dressing, and bathing.
- ☐ Help your baby learn to calm herself. It's okay for her to suck on her fingers.
- ☐ Begin to help your baby get into a routine, such as sleeping at night more than in the day, and have regular schedules.
- ☐ Getting in tune with your baby's likes and dislikes can help you feel more comfortable and confident.
- ☐ Act excited and smile when your baby makes sounds.
- ☐ Copy your baby's sounds sometimes, but also use clear language.
- ☐ Pay attention to your baby's different cries so that you learn to know what he wants.
- ☐ Talk, read, and sing to your baby.
- ☐ Play peek-a-boo. Help your baby play peek-a-boo, too.
- ☐ Place a baby-safe mirror in your baby's crib so she can look at herself.
- ☐ Look at pictures with your baby and talk about them.
- ☐ Lay your baby on his tummy when he is awake and put toys near him.
- ☐ Encourage your baby to lift his head by holding toys at eye level in front of him.
- ☐ Hold a toy or rattle above your baby's head and encourage her to reach for it.
- ☐ Hold your baby upright with his feet on the floor.
- ☐ Sing or talk to your baby as he is upright.

Milestones adapted from CARING FOR YOUR BABY AND YOUNG CHILD: BIRTH TO AGE 5, Fifth Edition, edited by Steven Shelov and Tanya Remer Altmann © 1991, 1993, 1998, 2004, 2009 by the American Academy of Pediatrics and BRIGHT FUTURES: GUIDELINES FOR HEALTH SUPERVISION OF INFANTS, CHILDREN, AND ADOLESCENTS, Third Edition, edited by Joseph Hagan, Jr., Judith S. Shaw, and Paula M. Duncan, 2008, Elk Grove Village, IL: American Academy of Pediatrics via CDC (U.S) at <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/milestones/> adjusted for UK advice.

This milestone checklist is not a substitute for a standardised, validated developmental screening tool.

