

AAP recommends developmental surveillance. CDC has FREE resources to help.

CDC's *Learn the Signs. Act Early.* Resources for Healthcare Providers

CDC's *Learn the Signs. Act Early.* milestone checklists make developmental surveillance easy.

The parent-completed checklists help you

- **Conduct developmental surveillance** as recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)
- **Support conversations with families** and elicit concerns because the checklists
 - Include evidence-informed developmental milestones* that **at least 75% of children** would be expected to exhibit
 - Include open-ended questions
 - Are available for each health supervision visit from ages 2 months to 5 years
 - Provide information about how to connect with early intervention
 - Include parent tips and activities to support early childhood development

You can help identify the 1 in 6 children with developmental disability or delay so children and families can get the help they may need by

- **Performing surveillance** at each health supervision visit (www.cdc.gov/ActEarly/Healthcare),
- **Encouraging parents to monitor milestones between visits** and share concerns,
 - Promote CDC's free *Milestone Tracker* app, share printed checklists, post flyers, and/or reuse laminated checklists.
 - Use the open-ended questions on each checklist to help elicit concerns that milestones alone may not capture. Parental concerns often indicate the need for further discussion and evaluation regardless of whether a child is meeting developmental milestones.
- **Conducting universal developmental screenings** using validated screening tools at recommended ages or whenever there is a concern, **as recommended by the AAP**,
 - General developmental screening is recommended at 9, 18, and 30 months, and autism screening is recommended at 18 and 24 months. CDC's milestone checklists **do not replace screening**.
 - CDC's *Learn the Signs. Act Early.* milestones include those that most children (75% or more) are expected to exhibit, so any missing milestone or other concern should prompt additional screening.
- **Referring children** for further evaluation AND to your state's early intervention program (www.cdc.gov/FindEI) if there are concerning screening results, or if you or the family have concerns.

* More information about how milestones were selected for inclusion in CDC's milestone checklists is available at Zubler JM, Wiggins LD, Macias MM, et al: [Evidence-informed milestones for developmental surveillance tools. *Pediatrics*. 2022;149 \(3\):e2021052138.](https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2022-149(3):e2021052138)

www.cdc.gov/ActEarly | 1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636)



Learn the Signs. Act Early.

Resources to help with developmental surveillance

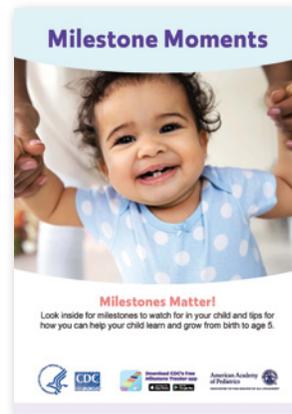
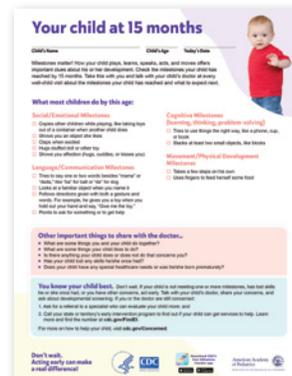
Most materials are available in English and Spanish; checklists are available in [six additional languages](#).

Print FREE materials directly at www.cdc.gov/ActEarly/Materials

Promote CDC's FREE *Milestone Tracker* app for families and other care providers: Learn more and print flyers for your clinic at www.cdc.gov/MilestoneTracker

Customize materials by adding your practice's logo and contact information and print them yourself. To get the files, email ActEarly@cdc.gov

Visit www.cdc.gov/ActEarly/Healthcare for free Continuing Medical Education (CME), Maintenance of Certification (MOC), Quality Improvement, and other developmental surveillance resources developed by AAP and CDC.



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