

Signs to Look for in Providing Early Identification and Services for Young Children with Special Needs



**EARLY INTERVENTION
CAN MAKE A
DIFFERENCE IN A
CHILD'S ABILITY TO
LEARN.**

Help at an early age does make a difference. Here are some signs to be aware of:

Movement:

- ** Unable to sit up without support by age 8 months.
- ** Cannot walk without help by 16 months.
- ** Does not walk up and down steps by age two and a half years old.
- ** is unable to balance on one foot for a short time by 4 years.
- ** Cannot throw a ball overhand or catch a big ball bounced to them by age 4.

Talking:

- ** Can't say "mamma" or "da-da" at 1 year
- ** Can't say simple words or names of people or toys by 18 months.
- ** Is not talking in 2-3 word sentences by 2 years
- ** Is not understood by people outside of the family by age 4.

Playing:

- ** Does not play games such as peek-a-boo, patty cake, or wave bye-bye at 1 year.
- ** Does not imitate parents doing household chore by age 2- 3 years.

- ** Does not enjoy playing alone with toys/pots/pans/sand/ etc.
- ** Does not play group games such as hide and seek, tag, ball games with other children by 4 years old.

Thinking:

- ** Does not react to his/her name within 1 year
- ** Unable to identify hair, eyes, ears, nose and mouth by 2 years
- ** Does not understand the difference between big and little at 3 years old.
- ** Does not give logical answers to such questions as "What do you do when you are sleepy?" by age 4

Hearing:

- ** Does not turn to face the source of strange sounds or voices by 6 mos. of age
- ** Has frequent ear infections or runny ears
- ** Talks in a very loud or too soft voice
- ** Does not respond when you call from another room
- ** Turns the same ear toward a sound he/she wishes to hear.

Seeing:

- ** Often unable to locate and pick up small objects which were dropped
- **Frequently rubs eyes or complains that eyes hurt
- **Has reddened, watering or encrusted eyelids
- ** Hold head in a strained or awkward position (tilts head to one or thrusts head forward or backward) when trying to look at a particular object.
- **Sometimes /always crosses one or both eyes.

It is important to note that all babies progress at different rates and may lag behind in some areas for a period of time. If a child is noticeably behind in a few areas, it may be time to talk to a pediatrician about your concerns.

Parents and gaurdians are encouraged to be alert and watch for developmental milestones. Regular checkups and doctor visits are encouraged.



- Tips to become more relaxed Parents:**
- ...Feel good about yourself.
 -Try to find ways to enjoy being with your baby.
 -Believe that you can become the kind of parent you want to be.
 -Understand that a lot of what you know about parenting comes from the way your parents raised you.
 -Understand and accept your responsibilities as a parent.
 - Be realistic about what you expect of yourself and your child.
 -Learn ways to relax and deal with tensions or stress.
 -Try to gather support from family or friends.
 -Ask for help when you need it.



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The Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Education Program at Paawidigong First Nation Forum would like to extend an informal invitation to come and visit us in the office. We would be happy to provide information for you and your new addition to the family!