Babies Ltd

Baby and toddler milestones at a glance

One milestone from each area (social, language, thinking, movement) for every CDC checkup age from 2 months to 5 years.

2 months

11 milestones

Calms down when spoken to or picked up · Makes sounds other than crying · Watches you as you move · Holds head up when on tummy

4 months

13 milestones

Smiles on his own to get your attention · Makes sounds like "oooo", "aahh" (cooing) · If hungry, opens mouth when she sees breast or bottle · Holds head steady without support when you are holding her

6 months

12 milestones

Knows familiar people · Takes turns making sounds with you · Puts things in her mouth to explore them · Rolls from tummy to back

9 months

13 milestones

Is shy, clingy, or fearful around strangers · Makes different sounds like "mamamama" and "babababa" · Looks for objects when dropped out of sight (like his spoon or toy) · Gets to a sitting position by herself

12 months

10 milestones

Plays games with you, like pat-a-cake · Waves "bye-bye" · Puts something in a container, like a block in a cup · Pulls up to stand

15 months

13 milestones

Copies other children while playing, like taking toys out of a container when another child does · Tries to say one or two words besides "mama" or "dada," like "ba" for ball or "da" for dog · Tries to use things the right way, like a phone, cup, or book · Takes a few steps on his own

18 months

15 milestones

Moves away from you, but looks to make sure you are close by · Tries to say three or more words besides "mama" or "dada" · Copies you doing chores, like sweeping with a broom · Walks without holding on to anyone or anything

2 years

13 milestones

Notices when others are hurt or upset, like pausing or looking sad when someone is crying · Points to things in a book when you ask, like "Where is the bear?" · Tries to use switches, knobs, or buttons on a toy · Kicks a ball

30 months

15 milestones

Plays next to other children and sometimes plays with them · Says about 50 words · Uses things to pretend, like feeding a block to a doll as if it were food · Uses hands to twist things, like turning doorknobs or unscrewing lids

3 years

12 milestones

Calms down within 10 minutes after you leave her, like at a childcare drop off · Talks with you in conversation using at least two back-and-forth exchanges · Draws a circle, when you show him how · Strings items together, like large beads or macaroni

4 years

17 milestones

Pretends to be something else during play (teacher, superhero, dog) · Says sentences with four or more words · Names a few colors of items · Catches a large ball most of the time

5 years

15 milestones

Follows rules or takes turns when playing games with other children · Tells a story she heard or made up with at least two events. For example, a cat was stuck in a tree and a firefighter saved it · Counts to 10 · Buttons some buttons

Find it online
babiesltd.com

Sources: CDC “Learn the Signs. Act Early.” milestone checklists (revised 2022). Checked October 2026.

CDC milestone checklists list skills most children (75% or more) have by each age. Full checklists: babiesltd.com/printable-milestone-checklists.