

Cognitive Skills Milestones

These milestones are provided as examples of what an average child might accomplish within various age brackets. This is only meant as a guide. If you have concerns, contact your child's pediatrician or schedule a free screening with PhysioKids.

Birth to 3 months:

- Briefly looks at people/ objects
- Alerts to sound
- Brings hand to mouth
- Uses limited variety of vocal sounds

3 to 6 months:

- Turns head to direction of sound
- Repeats accidental movements
- Recognizes familiar people and routines
- Alternates gaze between objects
- Reaches and grasps

6-9 months:

- Searches for partially hidden object
- Imitates familiar actions and sounds
- Looks and acts to repeat games
- Tracks and localizes object

9-12 months:

- Searches for hidden object
- Experiments with vocal sounds
- Uses action with toys
- Engages in container play (pots /pans or Tupperware)
- Imitates visible actions, familiar games

1- 1 ½ years old

- Represents functional use of objects
- Uses trial and error
- Uses early words
- Imitates new words and gestures
- Understands words and gestures
- Searches systematically for hidden object

1 ½ - 2 years old:

- Uses problem solving skills
- Participates in conversations
- Engages in representational play
- Places shapes in form board
- Identifies body parts

2-3 years old:

- Matches objects and shapes
- Points to one and many