

## Potential Signs of Developmental Delays in Children

Signs of **Social/Emotional** Developmental Delay:

By 9 months

- Child doesn't play games involving back and forth play
- Child doesn't respond to his or her own name
- Child doesn't seem to recognize familiar people

By 18 months

- Child doesn't point to show things to others
- Child doesn't notice or mind when a parent or familiar adult leaves or returns

By 3 years old (36 months)

- Child doesn't understand simple instructions
- Child doesn't play pretend or make-believe
- Child doesn't want to play with other children or with toys
- Child doesn't make eye contact

By 4 years old (48 months)

- Child shows no interest in interactive games or make-believe
- Child ignores other children
- Child doesn't respond to people outside the family

By 5 years old (60 months)

- Child doesn't show a wide range of emotions
- Child shows extreme behavior (unusually fearful, aggressive, shy or sad)
- Child is unusually withdrawn and not active
- Child is easily distracted, has trouble focusing on one activity for more than 5 minutes
- Child doesn't respond to people or responds only superficially
- Child doesn't play a variety of games and activities

Signs of **Physical** Developmental Delay:

By 9 months

- Child doesn't bear weight on legs with support
- Child doesn't sit with help
- Child doesn't transfer toys from one hand to the other

By 18 months

- Child can't walk
- Child doesn't point to show things to others

By 3 years old (36 months)

- Child falls down a lot or has trouble with stairs
- Child drools or has very unclear speech
- Child loses skills he or she once had

By 4 years old (48 months)

- Child can't jump in place
- Child has trouble scribbling
- Child resists dressing, sleeping, and using the toilet
- Child loses skills he or she once had

By 5 years old (60 months)

- Child doesn't draw pictures
- Child can't brush teeth, wash and dry hands, or get undressed without help
- Child loses skills he or she once had

Signs of **Language** Developmental Delay:

By 9 months

- Child doesn't babble ("mama," "baba," "dada")
- Child doesn't respond to own name

By 18 months

- Child doesn't gain new words or doesn't have at least 6 words

By 3 years old (36 months)

- Child doesn't speak in sentences
- Child doesn't understand simple instructions

By 4 years old (48 months)

- Child doesn't follow 3-part commands

