

VISION DEVELOPMENT MILESTONES

Birth to 6 weeks of age:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stares at surrounding when awake• Momentarily holds gaze on bright light or bright object• Blinks at camera flash• Eyes and head move together• One eye may seem turned in at times
8 weeks to 24 weeks:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eyes begin to move more widely with less head movement• Eyes begin to follow moving objects or people (8-12 weeks)• Watches parent's face when being talked to (10-12 weeks)• Begins to watch own hands (12-16 weeks)• Eyes move in active inspection of surroundings (18-20 weeks)• While sitting, looks at hands, food, bottle (18-24 weeks)• Now looking for, and watching more distant objects (20-28 weeks)
30 weeks to 48 weeks:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• May turn eyes inward while inspecting hands or toy (28-32 weeks)• Eyes more mobile and move with little head movement (30-36 weeks)• Watches activities around him for longer periods of time (30-36 weeks)• Looks for toys he drops (32-38 weeks)• Visually inspects toys he can hold (38-40 weeks)• Creeps after favorite toy when seen (40-44 weeks)• Sweeps eyes around room to see what's happening (44-48 weeks)• Visually responds to smiles and voice of others (40-48 weeks)• More and more visual inspection of objects and persons (46-52 weeks)
12 months to 18 months:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Now using both hands and visually steering hand activity (12-14 months)• Visually interested in simple pictures (14-16 months)• Often holds objects very close to eyes to inspect (14-18 months)• Points to objects or people using words "look" or "see" (14-18 months)• Looks for and identifies pictures in books (16-18 months)
24 months to 36 months:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Occasionally visually inspects without needing to touch (20-24 months)• Smiles, facial brightening when views favorite objects and people (20-24 months)• Likes to watch movement of wheels, egg beater, etc. (24-28 months)• Watches own hand while scribbling (26-30 months)• Visually explores and steers own walking and climbing (30-36 months)• Watches and imitates other children (30-36 months)• Can now begin to keep coloring on the paper (34-38 months)• "Reads" pictures in books (34-38 months)
40 months to 48 months:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brings head and eyes close to page of book while inspecting (40-44 months)• Draws and names circle and cross on paper (40-44 months)• Can close eyes on request, and may be able to wink one eye (46-50 months)
4 years to 5 years:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Uses eyes and hands together well and in increasing skill• Moves and rolls eyes in an expressive way• Draws and names pictures• Colors within lines• Cuts and pastes quite well on simple pictures• Copies simple forms and some letters• Can place small objects in small openings• Visually alert and observant of surroundings• Tells about places, objects, or people seen elsewhere• Shows increasing visual interest in new objects and place