

Milestones that Matter Most

1-2 months

Language

Gestures & Meanings

- ☐ I can orient toward your voice and change what I'm doing in response to you.
- Smile at you when you come to kiss me
- Watch you as you wipe me down with a cloth
- Look at you and smile when you sing to me
- Turn toward you when you come close and call my name
- Move my arms when Grandpa calls my name and reaches for me



Sounds & Words

- ☐ I can make gurgling sounds when I'm happy and different cries when I'm upset.
- Make a loud cry when my needs are urgent, like when I'm hungry or in pain
- Whine and fuss when you change my diaper
- Control my cry and begin to use happy sounds when you comfort me
- Make happy gurgling sounds when you pick me up after a nap
- Make a whiny or sleepy cry when I'm tired and squeal when I'm excited

Play

Using Actions with Objects

- ☐ I can move my fingers and bring my hands to my mouth.
- Bring my fist to my mouth and suck on it
- Grasp your finger when you stroke my hand
- Close my fingers around the chew toy you offer to me
- Grasp at your hair when you're holding me
- Grab my toes and bring them to my mouth

Social Sharing with Objects

- ☐ I can easily look at faces and objects that are near me.
- See the toy my sister holds up to show me, then look back at her face
- Look at the shapes on my crib sheets and then up to you as you approach my crib
- Notice the ceiling fan but quickly turn to you when I see your face
- Look toward my new diaper you just picked up, then back up to you
- Notice the pattern on your shirt while I'm nursing, but prefer to linger on your face

Social Interaction

Social Attention

- ☐ I am drawn to look at your face when you are holding me or come near me.
- Look at you while your holding me
- Notice you as you change my diaper
- Notice my sister as she reaches for my toes
- Watch as you walk toward me in my crib
- Look toward Grandpa as he reaches for me

Intentional Communication

- ☐ I can make sounds and move my arms and legs when I'm excited.
- Coo and move my arms when I see my favorite chew toy
- Kick my legs and make gurgling sounds when I'm happy to see you
- Squeal when the dog comes up to me
- Stretch my legs and make happy noises when I wake up
- Lift my head during tummy time when I see you in front of me

Emotional Regulation

Sharing & Managing Emotions

- ☐ I can smile back at you when you smile at me.
- Smile at you when you come close and squeeze my toes
- Notice and smile when you hide behind your hands and then smile
- Watch my brother make funny faces and smile back at him
- Take a break while drinking my bottle and grin at you when you sing to me
- Smile back at you when lean down to change my diaper and talk to me



Regulating Challenging Moments

- ☐ I can calm myself briefly by putting my hands in my mouth and sucking on my fingers.
- Cry and lay my head on my tray when my spoon falls down
- Whine and kick away my diaper while you're trying to change me
- Grab your arm and cry when you have to take the remote out of my hands
- Turn and hide my head on your shoulder when I'm afraid of the pop-up toy
- Use an upset voice and scoot away when you're trying to put my shoes on

Self-Directed Learning

Understanding Messages

- ☐ I notice you and turn my head toward you when I hear your voice.
- Become quiet when I hear your voice
- Grin when I hear Grandma sing to me
- Notice you talking to me when you come to pick me up
- Look toward my brother when he laughs near me
- Turn toward you when you're close to me and linger on your eyes and face



- ☐ I explore my body by touching and mouthing.
- Kick my feet in my crib
- Stretch my arms out in front of me
- Mouth my fist to explore it and find my fingers
- Grab my toes and suck on them
- Accidentally bat at my musical toy and notice the sound it makes



Milestones that Matter Most 3-4 months

Language

Gestures & Meanings

- ☐ I can turn toward you and bat at a toy you offer.
- Reach both hands toward my bottle when hold it close to me
- Hold my hands out to touch a mirror we are sitting in front of
- Bat at the stuffed animals on my play yard
- Reach to grab your hair and face when you lean down to kiss me
- Bat at the dog's tail when it wags near me



Sounds & Words

- ☐ I can make cooing sounds when I see you or see something interesting.
- Gurgle and kick my feet when Grandpa comes up to me
- Make an "ah" sound when the cat comes near
- Make cooing sounds when you look at me and bring your face close
- Make gurgling noises when my sister sings to me
- Make and "ooh" sound when you bring a favorite toy near me

Play

Using Actions with Objects

- ☐ I can mouth or touch an object that you put near me.
- Open my mouth and lean into my pacifier when you hold it close to me
- Grasp a stuffed toy that you put near in my hand
- Hold and mouth a chew toy that you put near my mouth
- Open my mouth and bat at/swipe at the spoon as you feed me
- Grab for the blanket you offer me as I lay down for nap

Social Sharing with Objects

- ☐ I can watch and follow a toy move from side to side.
- Look at and follow my bottle as you bring it to me
- I turn and follow a squeaky squirt toy you show me in my bath
- Watch my brother run around and be silly
- Kick excitedly when I notice the dog is walking in the room
- Turn my head and smile when you move my favorite stuffed toy from side to side

Social Interaction

Social Attention

- ☐ I can look at you and smile when I'm happy.
- Look toward you and smile when you sing my favorite song
- Notice Grandma on the phone and smile when she talks to me
- Watch Daddy and smile when he gets my toes
- Look at you and coo when we hear the dog bark
- Watch you and smile when you sing to me during a diaper change



Intentional Communication

- I can look at you to keep the interaction going and look away when it's too much.
- Turn away and fuss to let you know I'm ready to be done with diaper change
- Look to you while I'm nursing and enjoy hearing you hum
- Look away after hearing you sing and clap to let you know I need a break
- Watch my sisters nearby to show that I'm interested in what they're doing
- Look at you and smile to let you know I want you to keep making that funny noise

Emotional Regulation

Sharing & Managing Emotions

- ☐ I can smile and laugh with you when you make a silly sound or a toy makes a fun noise.
- Watch and chuckle when you make funny sounds in the bathroom mirror
- Look for you and giggle when you cover up your face with a blanket
- Notice you squeezing my squeaky toy and smile at you
- Look at my sister and smile when she dances and sings in front of me
- Turn and notice when you walk in the room and call my name in a sing-song voice



Regulating Challenging Moments

- I can calm down when you rock me, touch me, or make gentle sounds.
- Settle onto your shoulder when it's time for nap and you sing softly
- Sigh and calm down when you pat my back
- Quiet my crying when you hold me and sway back and forth
- Calm down when I look and see you coming to pick me up
- Stop fussing when you get my clean diaper on

Self-Directed Learning

Understanding Messages

- ☐ I can notice things that make sounds or move around me.
- Look toward my musical toy that you just turned on
- Notice you when you lean in to my crib to pick up my blanket
- Watch as my sister comes near my seat and talks to me
- Notice Grampa walk in the room and call my name while I'm mouthing my teether
- Watch you reach for my new diaper



- ☐ I explore things by touching, batting, and mouthing.
- Touch your arm while nursing
- Flail my arms toward my brother when comes to tickle me
- Hit at a soft toy that is making a noise
- Mouth my fingers and toes
- Touch your face when you lean down to kiss me



Milestones that Matter Most 5-6 months

Language

Thread 1) Gestures & Meanings

- ☐ I can try to roll over and take or touch a toy that you offer.
- Roll over from my tummy to reach toward a bottle you offer me
- Lean toward you in my support seat and touch the spoon as you offer a bite
- Turn to my side to touch the cat as it walks by
- Reach for and grab a washcloth as you wipe my face
- Roll over from my back and grab for a toy that you place near me



Thread 2) Sounds & Words

- ☐ I can use my voice to make different sounds in a variety of activities.
- Make happy squealing noises as I look at you
- Use a whiny voice when I can't reach my pacifier
- Make raspberry noises while you're changing my diaper
- Make cooing sounds like "ahhh" when you move close to me
- Giggle as I splash in the tub

Play

Thread 1) Using Actions with Objects

- I can reach to take and hold an object while on my back or belly.
- Reach for my clean diaper while you're changing me
- Pull and hold the burp cloth on your shoulder while I'm nursing
- Grab the wet towel when you wipe my face
- Reach and pull my brother's hair when he lays down next to me
- Take and hold the stuffed toy you put near me during tummy time

Thread 2) Social Sharing with Objects

- ☐ I can enjoy interacting with you while holding an object.
- Grasp my spoon with your help, and watch you fix my food
- Get excited and look to you when I see you coming with my bottle
- Look at you and coo while I'm patting the dog
- Use my voice and smile while I hold a rattle
- Look toward you while I chew on my teething keys

Social Interaction

Thread 1) Social Attention

- ☐ I can shift my attention from you to an object and back to you.
- Look at the spoon with sweet potatoes on it and then look back at your face
- Watch you as you change my diapers, then notice the wet wipe you grab, and look back at you
- Notice you pet the dog, then reach out to the dog and look back at you
- Watch your face as you undress me, then look at my sock as you pull it off, and back at you as we giggle
- Look at you, then shift my attention to the colorful block you're holding, and look back at you



Thread 2) Intentional Communication

- ☐ I can use my voice and movements when I need something.
- Kick my legs and fuss to let you know I'm really hungry
- Grunt and move my arms when my toy is stuck
- Reach and use my voice when you're holding something I want
- Bounce my body and giggle when you pick me up
- Look at you and use a whiny voice to let you know I'm uncomfortable

Emotional Regulation

Thread 1) Sharing & Managing Emotions

- ☐ I can use different sounds to let you know I'm happy.
- Look at you and chuckle when you make a silly noise
- Squeal to show I'm happy when Grandma picks me up
- Make happy sounds when you hand me my bottle
- Cackle and wave my arms with excitement when the cat comes near me
- Make a "mmm mmm" sound when I take a bite of something yummy



Thread 2) Regulating Challenging Moments

- ☐ I can start to calm down when I see you coming to comfort me.
- Sigh and stop crying when you pick me up and hand me my pacifier
- Use a softer voice when I see my food is coming
- Cling to you as we watch the noisy trash truck
- Lean toward you for comfort when the dog starts barking
- Settle down in my crib when I hear you singing to me

Self-Directed Learning

Thread 1) Understanding Messages

- ☐ I can notice what you say and do and change my expression or action.
- Turn toward you when you snuggle beside me
- Look at you when you say "Uh oh" as my banana falls
- Pull my leg out as you're taking my pants off
- Grab my bib as you unsnap it and say "all done"
- Reach out to touch your hands and smile when you clap and say "Pat a cake"



Thread 2) Creating New Ideas

- ☐ I can try different actions and watch to see what happens.
- Shake my rattle and notice the noise my rattle makes when I move it
- Kick the stroller footrest to make a loud thump
- Mouth a bumpy teether to explore its shape, then bang it on my car seat
- Squeeze a crinkle toy to hear the noise
- Wiggle over in my crib to reach my blanket



Milestones that Matter Most 7-8 months

Language

Gestures & Meanings

- ☐ I can use my hands to take things and move my body toward what interests me.
- Reach out to touch your hair or jewelry
- Wiggle and scoot closer to something I'm interested in
- Reach to grab bubbles in the bathtub
- Reach out to pick up a piece of banana from my high chair tray
- Hold a toy in one hand and reach out to pat the dog



Sounds & Words

- ☐ I can make different noises with my mouth and different sounds.
- Make excited squealing noises as I crawl toward you on the floor
- Whine when I drop my toy out of reach
- Make raspberry noises so you'll laugh again
- Say "ba ba ba" while I'm bouncing in my swing
- Make sounds like "ma ma ma" while waiting for my food to be ready

Play

Using Actions with Objects

- I can grasp, hold, bang, mouth, and let go of objects to explore how they work.
- Shake a rattle to make noise
- Bring a toy to my mouth to chew on it
- Hold a toy in each hand and bang them together
- Grab, bang, and drop plastic spoons on the kitchen floor
- Reach out with both hands to touch a stuffed animal

Social Sharing with Objects

- ☐ I am interested in exploring objects with you <u>and</u> noticing your reactions.
- Reach to take a toy you give me while you're changing my diaper
- Laugh when you hide behind the blanket and then reappear
- Watch to see if you notice when I make a loud noise playing with pots and pans
- Hold my spoon out while I'm eating and notice that you're watching
- Bounce and kick my legs in my car seat and look to see if you're watching me

Social Interaction

Social Attention

- ☐ I notice you, look at you often, <u>and</u> can easily shift my attention to you when you talk or gesture.
- Watch you wash the dishes while I eat my snack
- Giggle and look at you when you are about to tickle my toes
- Look up at you when you walk in the room, even if I'm playing with toys
- Watch as you sing and clap your hands and reach out to touch them
- Crawl to you as you call my name and hold out your arms



Intentional Communication

- ☐ I am learning you are the agent of change.
- Reach and look at you when you're holding something I want
- Use a loud voice and then notice that I got your attention
- Turn away from you when I'm finished eating
- Cry and look to you for help when I've dropped something
- Kick my feet excitedly and look at you when I see you coming to pick me up

Emotional Regulation

Sharing & Managing Emotions

- ☐ I can smile, laugh, <u>and</u> use my voice when I'm happy.
- Laugh and look at you when you make a silly noise
- Squeal with excitement when Grandma is about to pick me up
- Make happy sounds when I see you coming with my cup
- Giggle and look at you when the dog licks my arm
- Bounce up and down and use my excited voice when big brother comes in the room



Regulating Challenging Moments

- ☐ I can use different actions <u>and</u> sounds, in addition to crying, when I'm upset.
- Cry and lay my head on my tray when my spoon falls down
- Whine and kick away my diaper while you're trying to change me
- Grab your arm and cry when you have to take the remote out of my hands
- Turn and hide my head on your shoulder when I'm afraid of the pop-up toy
- Use an upset voice and scoot away when you're trying to put my shoes on

Self-Directed Learning

Understanding Messages

- ☐ I can use different actions <u>and</u> sounds that show I anticipate what will happen next.
- Roll over to you when you walk in the room to be near you
- Start pushing on my tray when I know it's time to get down from my highchair
- Scoot away quickly and giggle when I hear you say "Gonna get you"
- Cruise over and pull on your pants when I see you drumming on your lap
- Hold my arm out to help when you put my shirt on



- I am interested in learning what I can do with objects.
- Explore your hair by rubbing and holding onto it while you carry me
- Bang a pot on the kitchen floor to hear the loud sound
- Splash my bath toys to see what will happen
- Drop cheerios on the floor and watch the dog come gobble them up
- Have fun smashing my banana on my tray



Milestones that Matter Most 9-10 months

Language

Gestures & Meanings

- ☐ I can use early gestures like giving and reaching to get you to do something.
- Give you my sippy cup to get you to fill it up
- Reach for the crackers I want you to give me
- Turn my head away from something I don't want
- Push away an object I don't want
- Raise my arms to ask you to pick me up



Sounds & Words

- I can use my voice to make different sounds to let you know how I feel.
- Make joyful sounds while we play to let you know I am happy
- Use a frustrated tone in my voice when you offer me a snack I don't want
- Make three different vocal sounds, like fussing, laughing, or blowing raspberries
- Make two different vowel sounds like oooh, a-a-a, or eee
- Use consonant and vowel sounds together like *mamama*, *woo woo*, gaga, or *dada*

Play

Using Actions with Objects

- ☐ I can explore objects <u>and</u> repeat different actions with objects.
- Bang the pots and pans to make music
- Chew on my plastic ring, then shake it and bang it
- Bang my sippy cup on my tray, then tip it over, and bang it again
- Tug on my sock and pull it off
- Push the block off the table, smile when you give it back, then drop it again and laugh



Social Sharing with Objects

- ☐ I enjoy <u>and</u> anticipate your actions.
- Look at you and give you my spoon when I'm done eating
- Pull the cloth off your head, laugh when you say peek-a-boo, and give it back to do it again
- Take my favorite book out of a box and give it to you to read
- Hold my arms up to help you get my shirt on
- Hold out my hand, make a happy noise, and take a cracker you hand me

Social Interaction

Social Attention

- ☐ I notice you <u>and</u> what you're looking at.
- Watch as you put dishes away while I eat my snack
- Notice a picture you point to in a book, then look at you and look back at the book
- Look at you when you get my favorite bath toy and give it to me
- Watch you as you walk over to my crib and raise my arms for you to pick me up
- Look at you to check in regularly while you push me in the grocery cart



Intentional Communication

- I can let you know what I want and what I don't want.
- Reach up and look at you when I want you to pick me up
- Push away the oatmeal bowl when I don't want any more
- Reach toward the banana I want on the counter and look back at you
- Use an upset voice when I have a boo-boo to get you to comfort me
- Make a silly sound and pat your arm to get you to pay attention to me

Emotional Regulation

Sharing & Managing Emotions

- ☐ I can share happy moments when I interact with you.
- Look toward you when you say I'm gonna get you and then crawl away from you giggling
- Bounce and smile when you walk in the room and raise my arms to be picked up
- Look at you and make playful sounds when you change my diaper
- Pull on the blanket you're hiding under and laugh when I find you
- Look at you, smile, and make a happy sound when you squeak my favorite toy



Regulating Challenging Moments

- ☐ I can share sad or frustrated feelings to get you to comfort me.
- Cry and reach my arms out to you when I fall down trying to pull up on the furniture
- Use a frustrated tone in my voice and look at you for help when I can't pick up a piece of banana from my tray
- Push your hand away and use a fussy voice to let you know I don't want my jacket on
- Cry, raise my arms, and look at you to get you to hold me when I realize you are leaving for work
- Reach to you for comfort when something scares me

Self-Directed Learner

Understanding Messages

- ☐ I can guess what you're about to do <u>and</u> use "hints" around me to understand your message.
- Drop toys in the tub when you run the water because I figure out it's time for my bath
- Reach for my bib when you put me in my high chair because I realize it's time to eat
- Put my hands under the running water when you say Let's wash your hands
- Get my shoes when you point to them and say It's time to go
- Pull up my shirt and giggle when you say I'm gonna get you with a playful voice



- ☐ I notice you <u>and</u> listen to your voice to guide my actions.
- Respond with a loud voice in my crib to answer back when I hear you call for me
- Crawl into your lap and pull on your sleeve to get your attention when you are on the phone
- Pull off my bib when you say All done after snack
- Stop right away when you say *No-no-no* in a firm voice as I touch something I shouldn't
- Hold up my hands and open and close them when you start singing Twinkle Twinkle Little Star



Milestones that Matter Most 11-12 months

Language

Gestures & Meanings

- ☐ I can use gestures like showing and pointing to get you to notice what I am interested in.
- Hold up my spoon just to show it to you
- Wiggle my hand like I am trying to wave
- Show you a block from the tower that just crashed
- Tap a picture I want you to notice in a book
- Point to the light to get you to notice it



Sounds & Words

- ☐ I can use speech sounds together as if I am "talking" to you.
- Use speech sounds like mama, baba, or dada when we interact
- Combine sounds as if I'm talking to you when we're getting my shoes on
- Use a string of sounds together while we play a hiding game
- Use different sounds while we are having a snack together
- Use speech sounds as if we're having a conversation

Play

Using Actions with Objects

- ☐ I can use functional actions with several objects.
- Hold my sippy cup to my mouth and drink
- Put finger foods in my mouth by myself
- Put your phone to my ear and listen to grandma
- Wipe my face with a napkin and drop it in the trash
- Turn a page in a book



Social Sharing with Objects

- ☐ I enjoy taking turns exchanging objects with you.
- Roll a big ball or truck back and forth with you
- Take turns putting a silly hat on your head, then on mine
- Give you a toy that won't work so you'll fix it
- Bang on a toy drum, then laugh and look at you when you drum on it too
- Hold out my hand for you to give me some cheese, then give you a piece

Social Interaction

Social Attention

- ☐ I am eager to interact with you <u>and</u> help keep the interaction going.
- Take turns making silly sounds together
- Pull the blanket off your head and give it back to you to keep a game of Peek-a-Boo going
- Try to roll a ball back and forth with your encouragement
- Take turns filling a cup and pouring the water out while taking a bath
- Look at you, laugh, and make a game of dropping things from my tray to interact with you



Intentional Communication

- I can get you to notice me <u>and</u> things I'm interested in.
- Wiggle my body and make a silly sound to get you to dance with me
- Point to a picture in a book I want you to see
- Tap or point to a magnet on the refrigerator to get you to name it
- Pick up a leaf and show it to you when we are walking in the backyard
- Climb up in your lap when you are talking on the phone so you'll pay attention to me

Emotional Regulation

Sharing & Managing Emotions

- ☐ I can share enjoyment <u>and</u> flow with transitions between activities.
- Look at you, smile, and make a silly sound to get you to laugh while you change my diaper
- Give you my pail and shovel when it's time to clean up the sandbox and go inside
- Squeal with excitement and reach for my bib when you tell me it's time for lunch
- Look at you, smile, and help wipe my tray when you say Let's finish snack and go outside
- Raise my hands to be picked up from the bath and pat with the towel to help you dry me off



Regulating Challenging Moments

- ☐ I can hang in there during a necessary activity and do things to make myself feel better.
- Look at you and reach to request my pacifier for comfort when it's time for a diaper change
- Settle down when you hand me a bib to hold while I wait for my lunch
- Calm down from fussing when you give me a sock to hold while you dress me
- Take the washcloth you offer to help wipe my face after getting messy
- Choose a favorite toy to play with while you buckle me in my car seat

Self-Directed Learner

Understanding Messages

- ☐ I can follow simple directions like "come here" or "give it to me" when you ask me with gestures.
- Crawl over to you when you hold out your arms and say Come here
- Hold my foot up so you can put my sock on when you tap my leg and say *Give me your foot*
- Crawl over to Daddy when you point to him and say Where's daddy
- Put my dirty shirt in the laundry hamper when you tell me to and open the lid
- Look around for the ball when you hold out your hands and say Get the ball



- ☐ I watch you <u>and</u> try to do something with you or take on a job I can do with a little help.
- Try to get the spoon to my mouth after you help me scoop up some yogurt
- Rub my hands together with soap when you tell me to and then help you turn off the faucet
- Watch you put a puzzle piece in and try to put one in myself
- Wave and say Bye-bye after you show me how
- Wipe my tray with a napkin when you show me how and say *You can do it*



Milestones that Matter Most 13-14 months

Language

Gestures & Meanings

- ☐ I can learn new gestures like clapping and blowing a kiss by watching and imitating you.
- Watch you clap your hands and try to do it myself
- Try to wave when I see you wave goodbye to Grandma
- Watch you blow a kiss and try to do it, too
- Try to imitate when you show me simple gestures like *shhh* or *stinky*
- Imitate some of your motions when we sing Itsy Bitsy Spider



Sounds & Words

- ☐ I can use a few protowords or early forms of words in familiar situations.
- Say uh-oh when something drops
- Say baba when I want my bottle
- Try to say vroom vroom when I push a toy car
- Make animal sounds when we see animals in a favorite book
- Imitate night-night when you put me to bed

Play

Using Actions with Objects

- ☐ I can use functional actions with you or a stuffed animal.
- Brush your hair after watching you brush mine
- Take a bite and then feed you with a spoon
- Take my hat off and put it on your head
- Try to put my sunglasses on my Teddy Bear
- Cover my baby doll with a blanket and pat her to sleep

Social Sharing with Objects

- I can learn new actions with objects by watching and imitating you.
- Build a tower with blocks by taking turns with you
- Put toy animals in a truck and push it after watching you do it
- Watch Grandma put on her shoes and then try to put mine on too
- Babble on my toy phone while you talk on your phone
- Wipe my tray with a wet cloth after watching you do it

Social Interaction

Social Attention

- I can watch you <u>and</u> imitate what you do and say.
- Watch you blow a kiss, and try to do it myself
- Hear you call the dog and imitate calling the dog's name
- Watch you move your hands and try to open and close my hands while we sing Twinkle-Twinkle Little Star
- Pretend to talk on a phone like I've watched you do before
- Say bye-bye after you say it when we wave goodbye to Grandma

Intentional Communication

- ☐ I can communicate to share my enjoyment and interests with you.
- Open my animal book and say "woof-woof" to get you to look at the dog picture
- Say yum-yum and look at you when I see my yogurt snack
- Point to the mail truck out the window and look back at you to make sure you saw it too

Emotional Regulation

Sharing & Managing Emotions

- ☐ I can seek out situations that are fun, invite you to join me, and insist on being part of the action.
- Pick out my favorite puzzle and bring you a puzzle piece to ask you to play with me
- Climb in a cardboard box, look at you, and say Ron-ron to ask you to sing the Ron your Boat song
- Point to a puddle while we are walking outside to ask to splash
- Crawl over to you while you're putting clothes in the dryer and ask to push the button
- Reach for your sunglasses and try to put them on to make you laugh



Regulating Challenging Moments

- ☐ I can make it clear to you that I do not "want" something or do not want "to do" something.
- Say no-no and turn my head away when you offer me food I don't want
- Shake my head and push the washcloth away when I am playing in the bathtub
- Say all done and help clean up when I am done playing blocks
- Protest and pull my spoon away when I want to keep eating
- Whine and hug you because I don't want you to put me down to sleep

Self-Directed Learner

Understanding Messages

- ☐ I can listen to you <u>and</u> try to figure out your message.
- Try to follow your requests when it's time to get dressed, like Give me your arm, Where's your foot, Pull up
- Help wipe my face and tray when you tell me it's time to clean up from lunch
- Listen and try to follow your rhythm when we play music together
- Try to name the animals in my picture book when you say What's this
- Throw away the piece of paper I found on the floor when you tell me to



- ☐ I can communicate my preference when you offer several choices or let you know I want something else.
- Use my voice and point to the book I want when you offer me a few books
- Say no and push away the cereal I don't like, then reach for the bananas
- Say Quack-quack for my toy duck when you ask what I'd like to carry to the bathtub
- Point and say *Dat* when you give me a choice of shoes to wear outside
- Reach and say *Swing* when I want to get out of the wagon and get in the swing



Milestones that Matter Most 15-16 months

Language

Gestures & Meanings

- ☐ I can use symbolic gestures to share ideas with you.
- Give you a high five when we celebrate
- Pinch my nose when I notice something stinky
- Point to a bird I see outside the window so you will notice it
- Nod my head or give a thumbs-up to answer yes
- Shrug my shoulders as if to say I don't know



Sounds & Words

- ☐ I can use at least 5 different words that mean something to both of us.
- Say hi and bye to greet people
- Use words to request things I want like ball, eat, banana
- Say no or bye-bye to let you know I do not want something
- Use words for important people or animals like *mommy*, *auntie*, dada, *doggie*
- Say more or again to ask for more or another turn

Play

Using Actions with Objects

- ☐ I can use pretend actions with objects that have imagined things from everyday activities.
- Pretend to *stir* with a big spoon and scoop pretend food onto a plate when we play picnic

☐ I can communicate to get your attention and

- Say Mama to get your attention while you're washing dishes and

- Feed my teddy bear with pretend milk in a bottle
- Pretend to pour juice into a cup and take a drink
- Push a toy train and make a Choo-Choo sound

check in with you regularly.

- Call out for you when I wake up from my nap

- Look at you to check in while I am sitting across

- Look at you and tap your arm to show you how

- Call for you and wave when you come to pick me

Social Attention

then ask for more juice

the room with Aunt Maria

I make my bath toy squirt

up from daycare

- Put my feet in boxes and pretend they are shoes

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Social Sharing with Objects

- ☐ I can use objects in a silly, playful way <u>and</u> in a way that helps you get things done.
- Put a cracker on my nose to be silly and get your attention while eating my snack
- Put a box on my head to hide and to initiate peek-a-boo
- Push the laundry hamper down the hallway and say vroom-vroom
- Wipe my tray with a paper towel then crumble it up like a ball and toss it in the trash
- Help you sweep the floor with a broom and then try to hold the dustpan

Social Interaction

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Intentional Communication

- ☐ I try to figure out what you mean <u>and</u> keep the interaction going.
- Put on my shoes when you point to them and say Let's get ready to go outside
- Hold out my hands to get the next apple and put it in the bag at the grocery store
- Pick up my clothes when you ask me to help you put them all in the laundry hamper
- Watch and listen when we play Ring-around-the-Rosie to know when to stop and fall down
- Shrug my shoulders when you ask me something I don't understand

Emotional Regulation

Sharing & Managing Emotions

- ☐ I can stay active and engaged with you in fun situations and in necessary activities.
- Hang in there with you while we get all of the laundry out of the dryer
- Work with you to get all of the toys picked up before we go outside
- Help you water the plants outside with my little watering can
- Get motivated to brush my teeth when you sing a tooth-brushing song
- Go along with putting my shoes on even though I'd rather wear my boots



Regulating Challenging Moments

- ☐ I can tolerate you helping me stick with a task, even when I am upset.
- Let you finish cleaning my face with a cloth after I protest and push it away
- Let you blow bubbles if I can hold the bubble wand when I am frustrated that I can't do it
- Help you put my toys away even though I am not ready to take a bath
- Let you guide me back inside even though I'm whining and want to stay outside and play
- Let you help me with my spoon for a few bites even though I'm frustrated and want to do it myself

Self-Directed Learner

Understanding Messages

- ☐ I can respond when you talk to me <u>and</u> share my ideas with you.
- Respond by saying Yummy when you ask about my yogurt
- I point and say Tree, uh oh, when we discover a big limb that fell down in our yard
- Say *Puppy night-night* and use the *shhh* gesture when you show me a picture of a dog sleeping
- Say N_0 with a fussy voice when you tell me it's almost time to leave the park
- Pull up the stool and say *Help* when you tell me it's time to wash the dishes



- ☐ I can be productive doing my job and stand my ground with you.
- Take the comb and say Mine when you try to help because I want to do it myself
- Insist I take my favorite cup to the sink instead of you taking it
- Pull my hands away and say Me wash because I want to show you I can wash my hands
- Help pull the clothes out of the dryer and insist on being the one to close the door when we're done
- Tell you I want to pull my pants up by myself while you help me get them on



Milestones that Matter Most 17-18 months

Language

Gestures & Meanings

- ☐ I can look at you <u>and</u> use a gesture and word together to tell you what I am thinking.
- Reach toward you and say *baba* excitedly when I see you coming with my bottle
- Point and say truck to ask for my favorite truck on the shelf
- Show you my favorite blanket while looking at you and saying blankie
- Look at Grandma, wave, and say bye-bye
- Shake my head and tell you no when I do not want something



Sounds & Words

- ☐ I can use at least 10 different words that mean something to both of us.
- Tell you what I want to eat like cookie, banana, yogurt, crackers, juice
- Say object names such as book, car, keys, cup, shoe
- Use descriptive words like all-gone, stinky, loud
- Point to and name animals like cow, birdy, kitty when we look at books together
- Name a body part such as eye, nose, or tummy when you ask me

Play

Using Actions with Objects

- I can pretend using new actions that you show me or tell me to do.
- Pretend to take the baby doll's temperature after you show me how
- Pretend to shake salt into my play pots and then stir like I've seen you do
- Hold a stick and string and pretend to go fishing when you show me how
- Sing along and try to blow the candles out with you on the pretend cake for Bear's birthday
- Pretend to fix a wheel on my toy truck that is broken



Social Sharing with Objects

- ☐ I can use several objects together to build or create something with you.
- Build a big tower with shoe boxes and get your attention before knocking it down
- Take turns putting cars in a bucket and pretend we are washing them
- Use a box to make a bed for my baby doll with a pillow and a blanket
- Line up my trucks and take turns drawing lines for a road with chalk on the sidewalk
- Make balls with Playdoh and put them together with you to build a snowman

Social Interaction

Social Attention

- ☐ I can hang in and do something with you <u>and</u> monitor what you're paying attention to.
- Pull out a slice of bread, hand it to you, and wait until you're done spreading jelly to give you the next slice
- Take each piece of silverware from you after you dry it and put it in the drawer
- Pull the laundry hamper down the hall with you and hand you clothes to put in the washer
- Help you water with my watering can after you put each seed in the dirt
- Hold out my arm as you put on my shirt, then hold out the other arm, and tuck my head as you pull it on



Intentional Communication

- ☐ I try to help you know what I mean by adding information to my message.
- Pull you to my closet and point to my truck when you don't understand I'm asking for that
- Let you know I don't want the cereal you are offering and bring you the one I want
- Take my shoes and go to the door to make it clear I want to go outside
- Say Duck-duck to let you know I want my duck pajamas, not something else
- Hold my arms out like wings to ask you to help me find my favorite toy airplane

Emotional Regulation

Sharing & Managing Emotions

- ☐ I can get motivated or settle down with the help of your words <u>and</u> stay available for learning.
- Stop protesting and sit down to put my shoes on when you remind me that we can go outside
- Settle down after being frustrated by a toy because your words are calming and help me to keep playing
- Calm down even when I'm hungry and use my words when you offer me a choice of snacks
- Help you take my clothes off and put my bathing suit on when you tell me it is time to go swimming
- Let you hold my hand so I can carry the mail as we walk back to the house and open a card from Grandpa



Regulating Challenging Moments

- ☐ I can shift attention from something I want to do and engage in a different activity with you.
- Get my pajamas on even though I don't want to, when you say we can read my favorite book before bedtime
- Turn off my favorite TV show to greet Grandpa at the door
- Agree to not splash water when you show me how to make my boat go fast and slow in the bathtub
- Put down the iPad when you suggest we go play on the swing
- Accept a one-more-minute warning then come in from water play outside

Self-Directed Learner

Understanding Messages

- ☐ I can understand words <u>without</u> gestures in familiar situations.
- Take my napkin and put it in the trash when you tell me to
- Touch my eyes, nose, and belly when you ask me to
- Find the truck and the school bus when you ask me to point to them in my book
- Bring you a big leaf when you ask me to find one as we walk to the mailbox
- Go find Grandma and say Come Nana when you ask me to tell her it's time for dinner



- ☐ I notice opportunities for interaction and learning <u>and</u> can get myself involved.
- Ask you to pick me up when you use the microwave so I can push the *Start* button
- Ask Grandpa to put shaving cream on my face so I can pretend to shave when I see him shaving
- Show you the rock I found and put it in my basket while collecting things on our walk
- Make silly noises to get my baby sister to laugh during her diaper change
- Help you sort the laundry so I can put clothes in the washer with you



Milestones that Matter Most 19-20 months

Language

Gestures & Meanings

- ☐ I can use my words to share something interesting and to protest something I don't want.
- Use my words to ask for juice or a snack when I am hungry
- Say no, mine, or stop when I want you to stop doing something
- Say no, gone, or hye-hye when I don't want something you have offered
- Use words to show you something that just happened like uh-oh juice, truck beep-beep
- Say that or the object name to point out something interesting



Sounds & Words

- I can use at least 20 words to name people, animals, body parts, objects, actions, and places.
- Name things that we have seen together like horsie, bird, cow, doggie, bunny
- Use names for more people like Mimi, Nana, Pop-Pop, brother, and sister
- Use descriptive words like mine, big, hot, dirty
- Use action words like do, help, see, push, open, kiss, go, sleep
- Name places we go together like outside, park, store, Papa house

Play

Using Actions with Objects

- I can pretend using actions with imagined things from less familiar activities.
- Pour pretend batter into a pan and flip the pancakes when you tell me they're ready
- Pretend to give my teddy bear a shot, then offer him a hug to comfort him
- Cook some pretend soup in a pan, scoop a spoonful, and blow on it before feeding my stuffed animal
- Spread my arms and pretend to fly like the other kids at the park
- Pretend to make my toy fish swim under water and then do a flip when I am in the bathtub



Social Sharing with Objects

- I can combine different types of materials to create a play scenario with you.
- Put blocks on a plate and pretend I'm eating cookies with you
- Make a pretend road with blocks and take turns pushing my truck down the road
- Make a pizza out of sand, sticks, grass, and acorns and offer you some
- Put on a hat and hold a long tube and show you how I pretend to be a firefighter putting out a fire
- Dress up in your scarf and boots and pretend to visit Grandma

Social Interaction

Social Attention

- ☐ I am eager to share my interests and ideas with you.
- Say Woof-woof, doggie to tell you about the dog I saw outside
- Say Mama, pat-pat to share excitement about helping you flatten out the pizza dough
- Show you my crayon drawing and say Mama, Dada, house to describe it
- Say Red leaf and show you a special leaf I found while raking leaves together
- Pull the stool over and say My help to ask if you can drop your clothes into the washing machine



Intentional Communication

- ☐ I can persist in communicating my message to you.
- Say More juice, more apple juice and then show you my empty cup to make it clear I need more juice
- Call Mommy, mommy and then say Come Get Me when I wake up in my crib
- Say *No-no Daddy* and shake my head to let you know I don't want you to leave for work
- Say Help, My do, Puzzle no, when I try but can't get the puzzle piece to fit in
- Say Keep light on when you put me to bed and add My scared, Mommy to let you know why

Emotional Regulation

Sharing & Managing Emotions

- ☐ I can share enjoyment with my words <u>and</u> gestures and stay engaged in the activity with you.
- Look at an animal book with you, show you animals I like, and make the animal sound when you point to a picture
- Enjoy having a snack with you and imitating new words like open, pour, take one, crunchy
- Sing along, clap, and pretend to play my guitar with you when we listen to our favorite music
- Call out Where are you and wave for you to come as we search for big brother in the back yard
- Say Silly when you put Mr. Potato Head's foot in the wrong place, then point to where it's supposed to go



Regulating Challenging Moments

- ☐ I can say or do something that helps me manage my emotions <u>and</u> stay focused in a necessary activity.
- Ask for my favorite blanket to calm me when it's time to come in from playing outside
- Say My help when I pull the laundry hamper down the hall and wait for you to show me which clothes go in
- Settle down and let you help me get into another activity when I'm upset that an activity has ended
- Ask you to come help after I spill my Cheerios and then help sweep them up
- Pick out a washcloth from the closet and ask for bubble soap while you fill the tub with water

Self-Directed Learner

Understanding Messages

- I can follow simple directions when you ask me to do something.
- Take the washcloth and wipe my face when you ask me to.
- Throw something away when you say Please pick it up, take it to the kitchen, and put it in the trash
- Go to the cupboard, open it, and give the dog a treat when you ask me to
- Pull my socks and shirt off when you ask me to get ready for bed
- Put the toys in a box and put the box on the shelf when you ask me to pick up my toys



- ☐ I can recognize a problem or challenge <u>and</u> try to figure out what to do.
- Look all over the house to find my shoes when you tell me it's time to go outside
- Go to the kitchen and get a towel to wipe up the juice I spilled
- Lift the pillows on the couch to search for my toy plane
- Try a few different pieces to fix my toy train track
- Try hard to push the door and then ask for help to open it so I can go outside with Grandpa



Milestones that Matter Most 21-22 months

Language

Gestures & Meanings

- ☐ I can learn many new words every week <u>and</u> use them to share ideas with you.
- Share my ideas such as big balloon, ride horsey, scary dog
- Comment on things disappearing like bubbles bye-bye, milk gone
- Use more descriptive words like red truck, big ball, mommy up, no night-night
- Use more action words like daddy sweep, mommy up, blocks fall down
- Use words you didn't hear me use last week



Sounds & Words

- ☐ I can use at least 50 words <u>and</u> combine two words to convey different meanings.
- Use phrases to ask for more of something like *more cookie* or *tickle* again
- Use words to share how I feel like sad or mommy happy
- Use words to tell you what happened like daddy work, juice done, truck bye-bye
- Use words to tell you who things belong to like mommy shoe, my cup, doggie ball
- Use word combinations to describe things like

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Using Actions with Objects

- ☐ I can combine two different pretend actions with imagined things in a play scenario.
- Help roll out the Playdoh and cut cookies, then pretend to put sprinkles on and bake them
- Make my toy horse run and then eat pretend grass
- Put on a sheet and pretend it is a cape and I am flying
- Climb on a big box and pretend I am fishing in a boat
- Use a paper towel roll and make noise in it like it's a trumpet and march around

Social Sharing with Objects

- ☐ I can tell you about my play scenario <u>and</u> invite you to play with me.
- Ask you to help me stack up boxes to build a pretend house
- Find a stick and string for each of us and ask you to play fishing with me
- Get my shoes then tell you I want to go outside with you to make mud pies in the sandbox
- Invite you to go on a picnic with my teddy bear and me
- Say Wanna play horsie and ask to climb on your back and pretend you're a horse

Social Interaction

Social Attention

- ☐ I can take a few turns sharing my ideas <u>and</u> listening to your ideas.
- Tell you about my leaf and look to see other things you point to outside
- Show you the buttons on my jacket and then look when you show me the zipper on your jacket
- Look at your new hat and I go get mine to show you
- Point to a train in my favorite book and name it, then turn the page and look at one you point out
- Try to reach the ball that rolled under the counter and ask you to help use my stick to get it

Intentional Communication

- ☐ I can ask you about things that I don't know.
- Say Where kitty when it's time to feed the cat and she is not around
- Say What Grandpa do when he is working out in the garage
- Say What's that when we look at pictures in a book and I don't know the name
- Take turns talking about people we see when we go to Grandma's house
- Ask you what's in a pumpkin pie

Emotional Regulation

Sharing & Managing Emotions

- ☐ I can use my words to ask you to help me get motivated or settle down.
- Bring my shoes to you and say *Help Mommy* when I get frustrated trying to put them on myself
- Say *Push me* to get you to help me scoot my chair closer to the table so I can play with my big sister
- Ask to take my favorite book in the car when you tell me it's time to go pick up Daddy
- Say Purple spoon when you tell me it's time to take my medicine
- Say No read books when you ask if I'm all done after I push the books away



Regulating Challenging Moments

- ☐ My very upset moments are getting briefer and I can flow with unpleasant or unexpected situations.
- Get mad when you say All done watching TV but calm down when you give me choices of other things to play with
- Get upset when we can't go outside to play because it's raining but feel better when you suggest we bake cookies
- Begin to cry then ask you for a kiss and Band-Aid when I fall down and skin my knee
- Help clean up my toys even though I protest that I want to do something else
- Calm down by sitting in my rocking chair with my doll, when the smoke alarm goes off and scares me

Self-Directed Learner

Understanding Messages

- ☐ I can observe and listen to you to know what I am supposed to do <u>and</u> go along with your plan.
- Get my backpack and go to the door when you say It's time to go
- Clean my face when you ask me to, then wipe my tray
- Get the watering can, fill it up, and help you water plants in the garden
- Watch you when we play *Itsy Bitsy Spider* and try to make the up and down hand movements
- Watch you stir, scoop, and pour batter into the pan and then take a turn when we make pancakes together

- ☐ I can come up a creative idea and let you know my plan.
- Put a blanket over the table and crawl under it to show you the tent I made
- Show you the dirt on the floor and tell you I'm going to get the broom
- Ask you to push the big stroller while I push my doll in the little stroller
- Try to dig a hole with the big shovel and fill up the wagon with dirt to move it to the driveway
- Turn my book into a ramp and show you how fast I can make my toy car roll down



Milestones that Matter Most 23-24 months

Language

Gestures & Meanings

- ☐ I can use phrases that describe things <u>and</u> request new information.
- Use phrases to ask questions like where daddy go or what doggie do
- Say what's that to ask for the name of things
- Use phrases to describe things like no touch hot, my shoe stuck, or my hall gone-gone
- Use words to describe locations like up, out, in, off, on
- Use phrases to deny or refute something like no baby, not shoe, this

Sounds & Words

- ☐ I can use at least 100 words in phrases that include names, actions, <u>and</u> descriptions.
- Use phrases with agents and actions like mommy kiss, doggie run, daddy throw, baby sleep
- Use phrases to describe actions and objects like car go fast, tree so big, truck loud, want red cup, put on table
- Combine words that describe something not there like grandma go home, no more beans, blocks all gone
- Use phrases with agents, actions, and objects like mommy kiss baby, kitty eat food, daddy push car, mommy get bottle
- Use phrases to solve problems and feel better like ball stuck daddy help, fall down want hug, mommy puzzle not fit help

Play

Using Actions with Objects

- I can combine several different pretend actions in a logical sequence.
- Put sand and stones in my dump truck, drive it over to the pretend building site, and dump it out.
- Give my toy bear a bottle, burp him, and then change his diaper
- Color an envelope and pretend to mail a letter by putting it in a shoebox
- Put my toy animals in a bucket, pretend to give them a bath, then dry them with a towel
 Pretend to wash my toy dishes, put them on a counter to dry, and then put them away



Social Sharing with Objects

- ☐ I can begin to take on a make-believe role in a pretend play scenario with you.
- Pretend to ride in a tractor and put our hats on while we're reading a book about the farm
- Pretend to serve you food and pour you a drink at our make-believe restaurant
- Pile up sofa cushions with you and pretend we are climbing a mountain
- Put boxes in my wagon and pretend we are at the grocery store, then pay you when I leave
- Pretend to be the doctor and listen to your heart while we play

Social Interaction

Social Attention

- ☐ I can talk with you about a topic I'm interested in like we're having a conversation.
- Start talking about the tree that fell down while on our walk together
- Point out and name the horses and cows I see while driving in the car
- Talk about the different balloons I see at the grocery store
- Ask what happened to the big pile of leaves we saw in the backyard
- Talk about what we can make with Playdoh today

Intentional Communication

- ☐ I can let you know how I feel <u>and</u> negotiate when things don't go my way.
- Tell you Mad and stomp my feet, when you ask me to put my favorite toy away
- Say No leave Mimi with a sad face when it's time to go home from visiting Grandma
- Say One more time slide when you tell me it's time to leave the park
- Help figure out what we can do together inside after hearing it's snowing and we can't go to the park
- Let you know I'm mad that you won't let me carry the eggs and instead ask to carry the apples

Emotional Regulation

Sharing & Managing Emotions

- I can use my words to share moments of success with you.
- Go to the drawer, find the ice cream scoop, and tell you I got the big spoon
- Say My help when I hold my foot up and step into my pajamas.
- Put my shoe on, close the Velcro strap, then look at you and say *Look, I do it*
- Say Mommy watch this when I squirt the hose and help water plants
- Say Papa look as I balance a box on my head



Regulating Challenging Moments

- ☐ I can calm myself down, come back to you, <u>and</u> communicate what I want or need.
- After getting upset when I'm told I can't have snack, I come back and ask if we can go outside
- Calm down and say That's mine after brother takes my favorite truck
- Run out of the room when you tell me it's time to go to bed and then bring you my favorite book
- Say No-no and stomp my feet when you don't give me my own snack bowl, but then say Get my bowl
- Say My banana and pout when you ask me to share with sister, but calm down when you say Ask her to pour you milk

Self-Directed Learner

Understanding Messages

- ☐ I can create opportunities to learn about things that interest me in everyday situations.
- Walk into the kitchen with my bare feet and tell you it's cold
- Ask you Where they go when the fireflies light up and then disappear while we search for them in the back yard
- Bring a worm I found in the garden, show you how it wiggles, and ask Where him ears
- Help Mommy make a smoothie then tell daddy what we put in it— Banana, salad, and milk
- Look at picture in book and say Mommy look, Teddy bear make dough and Mommy says Like the cookie dough we made



- I can try out new things <u>and</u> seek out new opportunities for learning.
- Put on a raincoat and boots so we can take a walk and splash in puddles
- Help wash the car and learn how to spray with the hose to rinse Help find the bananas to put in my little cart while we go grocery shopping
- Find a pinecone outside and ask you what it is
- Climb through the new tunnel at the park and find you in the lookout window