Older Infants 8 to 18 months

How am I Doing?

When I am really excited, I: __________________________________________

My favorite nursery rhyme is: _______________________________________

Some of the words I use are: _______________________________________

Our funniest conversations: _______________________________________

As I Learn to Communicate, I:

Cry
Listen
Smile
Make sounds
Respond to your voice

A guide for the Family of:

Place my photo here
### Older Infants 8 to 18 months

#### Ability to Communicate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I am Learning:</th>
<th>You Might See Me:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Language Comprehension               | ✦ Understand simple words and requests  
✦ Enjoy rhymes, songs and games such as peek-a-boo                                  |
| Language Expression                  | ✦ Use gestures or sounds to get help  
✦ Respond to your voice as if we are having a conversation                           |
| Emotional Expression                 | ✦ Use a pretend phone to express my feelings  
✦ Cry louder when you are not paying attention  
✦ Look to you to tell me how I am feeling  
✦ Feel better when you label my feelings for me                                    |
| Emotional Understanding              |                                                                                  |

#### You Can Help Me By:

✦ Pretending to have a conversation with me
✦ Describing what we are doing and what I am interested in
✦ Using words to describe to me how I am feeling
✦ Reading books and asking me to point to pictures

#### What's Next for Me?

✦ Understanding lots of words and short directions
✦ Asking lots of "what", "why", and "where" questions
✦ Talking about and play acting emotions
## Older Infants 8 to 18 months

### How am I Doing?

#### Something new I discovered:

_____________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________

#### You noticed when I remembered:

_____________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________

#### Songs I know by heart are:

_____________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________

#### I like to pretend:

_____________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________

---

**A guide for the Family of:**

**Watch ME Grow and Develop My Curious Mind!**

As My Curious Mind Develops, I:

- Explore
- Discover
- Remember
- Understand
- Solve problems
- and Pretend

**Early Care & Education**

**Early Childhood Division**

**Maine Department of Health and Human Services**

Development and printing paid for by Child Care Development Fund, Administration for Children and Families, United States Department of Health and Human Services. For more copies call (207) 624-7909.
## Older Infants 8 to 18 months

### Developing My Curious Mind

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exploration &amp; Discovery</td>
<td>✦ Put things in my mouth to find out more about them</td>
<td>✦ Letting me make mistakes and keep trying</td>
<td>✦ Joining in when you sing new songs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>✦ Bang on things and bang things together</td>
<td>✦ Describing what is happening as I bang things together</td>
<td>✦ Filling and emptying lots of containers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concept Development &amp; Memory</td>
<td>✦ Ask for a favorite toy that is not in sight</td>
<td>✦ Giving me time to figure out all the ways to use my toys</td>
<td>✦ Solving problems all by myself</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problem Solving, Symbolic Thought &amp; Creative Expression</td>
<td>✦ Figure out how to stack up my blocks</td>
<td>✦ Offering me new toys when I have figured out the old ones</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Keep trying if I can't solve a problem right away
- Explore what I can do with playdoh
Older Infants 8 to 18 months

How am I Doing?

When you leave, I:____________________________________________________________
                                                                                   
My favorite playmate is:________________________________________________________
                                                                                   
I comfort myself by: __________________________________________________________
                                                                                   
I show you what I want when I:________________________________________________
                                                                                   
Place my photo here
                                                                                   
Watch ME Grow into a Social Being!

As a Social Being I:

Learn who I am
Learn who you are
Learn how to comfort myself
Learn about feelings
Learn about friendships

A guide for the Family of:
## Older Infants 8 to 18 months

### Development of Social Beings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I am Learning:</th>
<th>You Might See Me:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Self-Awareness**     | ✦ Develop a preference for toys  
                        | ✦ Respond to my name with vocalizations                                           |
| **Self-Concept**       | ✦ Show my unhappiness when I don't like something  
                        | ✦ Laugh when I am able to do something                                            |
| **Self-Regulation**    | ✦ Pick up a familiar object to comfort myself  
                        | ✦ Struggle with you because of my new determination                               |
| **Peer Interaction**   | ✦ Play side by side with another child  
                        | ✦ Match emotions by frowning when my playmate is upset                            |
| **Adult Interaction**  | ✦ Cry when you have to leave me  
                        | ✦ Point to show you what I want                                                  |

### You Can Help Me By:

✦ Offering me meaningful choices so I can feel powerful

✦ Giving me opportunities to have playmates, and guiding our play

✦ Understanding when I am over-stimulated and need a quiet space

✦ Using the names of familiar people and showing me pictures of them

### What's Next for Me?

✦ Wanting to explore more, but still needing you near by

✦ Beginning to solve problems through pretend play

✦ Saying "NO" to show you I have an opinion
### Older Infants 8 to 18 months

**How am I Doing?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>My favorite thing to do outdoors is: ____________________________________________</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>When you ask me to wash my hands, I: ________________________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To move across the room, I: _________________________________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The finger food I enjoy eating most is: ______________________________________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Watch ME Grow into a Strong & Healthy Baby!**

As a Strong & Healthy Baby, I:  
- Use all my senses  
- Move around  
- Use my hands  
- Do things for myself  
- Explore the world safely  

---

**A guide for the Family of:**
## Older Infants 8 to 18 months
### Strong & Healthy Bodies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I am Learning:</th>
<th>You Might See Me:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Gross Motor Skills      | ✦ Sit up alone, stand and cruise while holding on  
                        | ✦ Practice throwing lots of things |
| Fine Motor Skills       | ✦ Use my thumb and forefinger to pick up small things  
                        | ✦ Start to undress myself |
| Perceptual Development  | ✦ Show an increased ability to concentrate  
                        | ✦ Enjoy a variety of experiences that involve all my senses |
| Self-help/Adaptive Skill| ✦ Begin to drink from a cup with handles  
                        | ✦ Want to help you with household chores |

### You Can Help Me By:

✦ Allowing me to get messy when I feed myself  
✦ Taking me outdoors so I can use all my senses  
✦ Putting me on the floor so I can exercise my body  
✦ Remembering that I may be frustrated because I am learning new skills

### What’s Next for Me?

✦ Beginning to show interest in the potty  
✦ Starting to walk and run with control  
✦ Trying to dress myself  
✦ Using all my senses to learn