Developmental Red Flags

DEVELOPMENTAL RED FLAGS (8 TO 12 MONTHS)

Does not crawl

Drags one side of body while crawling (for over one month)

Cannot stand when supported

Does not search for objects that are hidden (10-12 mos.)

Says no single words ("mama" or "dada")

Does not learn to use gestures such as waving or shaking head

Does not sit steadily by 10 months

Does not react to new environments and people

Does not seek out caregiver when stressed

Does not show interest in "peek-a-boo" or "patty cake" by 8 mos.

Does not babble by 8 mos. ("dada," "baba," "mama")

DEVELOPMENTAL RED FLAGS (12 TO 24 MONTHS)

Cannot walk by 18 months

Fails to develop a mature heel-toe walking pattern after several months of walking, or walks exclusively on toes

Does not speak at least 15 words by 18 months

Does not use unique two-word phrases by age 2 (more milk, big dog, mommy help)

By 15 months does not seem to know the function of common household objects (brush, telephone, cup, fork, spoon)

Does not imitate actions or words by 24 mos.

Does not follow simple one-step instructions by 24 mos.

Cannot identify self

Cannot form a two-word phrase

Cannot hold and use a spoon or cup for eating and drinking

Does not display a wide array of emotions (anger, fear, happy, excited, frustrated)

DEVELOPMENTAL RED FLAGS (24 TO 36 MONTHS)

Frequent falling and difficulty with stairs

Persistent drooling or very unclear speech

Inability to build a tower of more than 4 blocks

Difficulty manipulating small objects

Inability to copy a circle by 3 years old

Inability to communicate in short phrases

No involvement in pretend play

Cannot feed self with spoon or drink from cup independently

Failure to understand simple instructions

Little interest in other children

Extreme difficulty separating from primary caregiver

DEVELOPMENTAL RED FLAGS (3 TO 4 YEARS)

Cannot jump in place

Cannot ride a trike

Cannot grasp a crayon between thumb and fingers

Has difficulty scribbling

Cannot copy a circle

Cannot stack 4 blocks

Still clings or cries when parents leave him

Shows no interest in interactive games

Ignores other children

Doesn't respond to people outside the family

Doesn't engage in fantasy play

Resists dressing, sleeping, using the toilet

Lashes out without any self-control when angry or upset

Doesn't use sentences of more than three words

Doesn't use "me" or "you" appropriately

DEVELOPMENTAL RED FLAGS (4 TO 5 YEARS)

Exhibits extremely aggressive, fearful or timid behavior

Is unable to separate from parents

Is easily distracted and unable to concentrate on any single activity for more than 5 minutes

Shows little interest in playing with other children

Refuses to respond to people in general

Rarely uses fantasy or imitation in play

Seems unhappy or sad much of the time

Avoids or seems aloof with other children and adults

Does not express a wide range of emotions

Has trouble eating, sleeping or using the toilet

Cannot differentiate between fantasy and reality

Seems unusually passive

Cannot understand prepositions ("put the cup on the table"; "get the ball under the couch")

Cannot follow 2-part commands ("pick up the toy and put it on the shelf")

Cannot give his first and last name

Does not use plurals or past tense

Cannot build a tower of 6 to 8 blocks

Holds crayon with fisted grasp

Has trouble taking off clothing

Unable to brush teeth or wash and dry hands