

## WAYS YOU CAN HELP YOUR BABY

- Provide a safe place to practice moving
- teach your baby how to get back down from standing, by bending legs and lowering to the floor
- allow your baby to play on the floor several times everyday, as time spent moving on the floor strengthens the muscles needed to stand and walk
- talk to your baby during daily activities. Talk about new places and experiences before you go, while you are there, and when you get home
- talk simply, clearly and slowly to your child, name the objects he/she touches or looks at
- read colorful books together and talk about the pictures
- provide small snacks like Cheerios that your baby can pick up with fingers and thumb

## AT 9 MONTHS YOUR BABY SHOULD:

- begin to wave bye bye
- shout, listen for response, shout again
- bite and chew soft foods
- hold cup to drink

## CONTACT YOUR PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE OR DOCTOR IF:

... at 9 months your baby:

- does not reach for objects or roll over
- does not bring his/her hands together
- does not sit well with support
- does not react to your voice or other sounds

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CHILD DEVELOPMENT

## YOUR DEVELOPING BABY

9 MONTHS



By 9 months, many children will be doing the things listed here. It is important to remember, however, that each child develops at his or her own rate.

At the end of the pamphlet you will find ways you can help your baby learn these new things.

## LEARNING TO MOVE

At 9 months your baby should:

- roll in both directions / sit alone on floor to play
- Possibly be pulling up to stand at furniture
- be crawling (or scooting around on the floor)

## SEEING & USING HANDS

At 9 months, your baby should:

- start to point with index finger
- start to bang objects together
- use pads of fingertips to grasp a toy
- watch everything going on around him/her
- pick up very small objects (e.g. raisins, Cheerios)

## LEARNING TO THINK & PLAY

At 9 months, your baby should:

- shake toys to make a sound
- find a partially covered toy
- start to watch activities going on around him/her for several minutes at a time
- try to clap his/her hands (e.g. play “pat-a-cake”)
- start to put objects in a container
- play peek-a-boo
- Look at pictures in books



## HEARING, SPEECH & LANGUAGE

At 9 months, your baby should:

- turn directly to nearby sounds
- turn or look up when his/her name is called
- understand words such as “bye-bye”, “up”, or “no”
- say sounds like “ba ba”, “na na”, “ma ma”, “da da”
- laugh and try to make sounds like you

