

SPEECH, LANGUAGE & HEARING DEVELOPMENT

Here is a list of things babies with normal hearing should be able to do:

Around 2 months of age:

- Makes sounds other than crying
- Reacts to loud sounds

Around 4 months of age:

- Makes sounds like “oooo” and “aahh”
- Makes sounds back when you talk to him
- Turns head towards the sound of your voice

Around 6 months of age:

- Takes turns making sounds with you
- Blows “raspberries”
- Makes squealing noises

Around 9 months of age:

- Makes different sounds like “mamama” and “babababa”
- Lifts arms up to be picked up

Around 12 months of age:

- Waves “bye-bye”
- Calls parent “mama” or “dada” or another special name
- Understands “no”

Around 18 months of age:

- Tries to say one or two words besides “mama” or “dada” like “ba” or “da” for dog
- Looks at a familiar object when you name it
- Follows directions given with both a gesture and words.
- Points to ask for something or to get help

Remember, you can have your child's hearing tested at any age

If you have any questions concerning the information in this brochure, your child's hearing screening results, or next steps, please contact the Nevada EHDI Program

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NEVADA DIVISION of PUBLIC and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



LISTEN UP!

NEVADA NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING PROGRAM

A Guide for Parents

WHY SHOULD MY BABY'S HEARING BE SCREENED?

Hearing loss is one of the most common birth defects in newborns. It occurs in 3-4 of every 1,000 babies. It is also invisible. You cannot always tell by watching how well babies hear. They may cry, babble, or startle to loud noises, just like babies with normal hearing. Most babies born with hearing loss are otherwise healthy and have no family history of hearing loss.

Your baby's first two years are the most important for learning speech and language. Undetected hearing loss can lead to delayed development and difficulties in school. *Fortunately, if hearing loss is identified early and intervention occurs by age 5 months, the child has a better chance of developing normal speech and language skills.*



HOW WILL MY BABY'S SCREENING TEST BE DONE?

The screening is done in the hospital before your baby goes home. Soft sounds are played through special earphones. A computer measures how the baby's ear responds to the sound. Screening is safe, painless and only takes a few minutes. Most babies sleep through the hearing screening. Some babies may require a second screening if they are too active or have birthing fluids in the ear canal.

HOW WILL MY BABY'S SCREENING TEST BE DONE?

If your baby does not pass the screening, he will need a referral. This does not mean that your baby is deaf or hard-of-hearing. It just means your baby needs to have a different type of test to determine if hearing loss is present. A complete hearing test will need to be given by an audiologist (hearing specialist). This hearing test should occur as soon as possible, but at least by three months of age. If your baby has hearing loss; you will be referred to an early intervention program for support and services.



IF MY BABY PASSES THE SCREENING, DO I NEED TO RETEST HEARING LATER?

The results of the hearing screening show how your baby is hearing at the time of the procedure. For a variety of reasons, hearing loss can develop after your baby leaves the hospital. Some children with a family history of hearing loss, ear infections, or serious illness may develop hearing loss at a later time. If you have concerns about your child's hearing or language development, talk to your child's doctor. Ask to see an audiologist. Your child's hearing can be tested at any age.