

Milestones that Matter Most **17-18 months**

Gestures & Meanings

- I can look at you and 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

□ I can pretend using new actions that you show me

- 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

- Sing along and try to blow the candles out with you on the pretend

□ I can hang in and do something with you and

- Pull out a slice of bread, hand it to you, and wait until you're done

monitor what you're paying attention to.

- Take each piece of silverware from you after you dry it and

- Pull the laundry hamper down the hall with you and hand you

- 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

- Hold a stick and string and pretend to go fishing when

- Pretend to fix a wheel on my toy truck that is broken

spreading jelly to give you the next slice

arm, and tuck my head as you pull it on

- Look at Grandma, wave, and say bye-bye

Using Actions with Objects

or tell me to do.

I've seen vou do

you show me how

Social Attention

put it in the drawer

clothes to put in the washer

cake for Bear's birthday

- Shake my head and tell you no when I do not want something

Language

Play

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

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

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,

I can shift attention from something I want to do

Get my pajamas on even though I don't want to, when you say we

and engage in a different activity with you.

Turn off my favorite TV show to greet Grandpa at the door

- Put down the iPad when you suggest we go play on the swing

Agree to not splash water when you show me how to make my

Hold my arms out like wings to ask you to help me find my favorite toy airplane

Regulating Challenging Moments

can read my favorite book before bedtime

- Accept a one-more-minute warning then come in from

boat go fast and slow in the bathtub

Sharing & Managing Emotions

I can get motivated or settle down with the help of your words and 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
- the house and open a card from Grandpa

Self-Directed Learner

Creating New Ideas

water play outside

- □ I notice opportunities for interaction and learning and 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





- Let you hold my hand so I can carry the mail as we walk back to

Understanding Messages

- I can understand words without 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



Emotional Regulation

- not something else
- Social Interaction