

Milestones that Matter Most 7-8 months

Gestures & Meanings

- □ I can use my hands to take things <u>and</u> move my body toward what interests me.
- Reach out to touch your hair or jewelry
- Wiggle and scoot closer to something I'm interested in
- Reach to grab bubbles in the bathtub
- Reach out to pick up a piece of banana from my high chair tray
- Hold a toy in one hand and reach out to pat the dog

Using Actions with Objects

- □ I can grasp, hold, bang, mouth, <u>and</u> let go of objects to explore how they work.
- Shake a rattle to make noise
- Bring a toy to my mouth to chew on it
- Hold a toy in each hand and bang them together
- Grab, bang, and drop plastic spoons on the kitchen floor
- Reach out with both hands to touch a stuffed animal



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Sounds & Words

- □ I can make different noises with my mouth <u>and</u> different sounds.
- Make excited squealing noises as I crawl toward you on the floor
- Whine when I drop my toy out of reach
- Make raspberry noises so you'll laugh again
- Say "ba ba ba" while I'm bouncing in my swingMake sounds like "ma ma ma" while waiting for my food to be ready

Social Sharing with Objects

- □ I am interested in exploring objects with you <u>and</u> noticing your reactions.
- Reach to take a toy you give me while you're changing my diaper
- Laugh when you hide behind the blanket and then reappear
 Watch to see if you notice when I make a loud noise playing
- with pots and pans Hold my spoon out while I'm eating and notice that you're watching
- Bounce and kick my legs in my car seat and look to see if you're watching me

Social Attention

□ I notice you, look at you often, <u>and</u> can easily shift my attention to you when you talk or gesture.

- Watch you wash the dishes while I eat my snack
 Giggle and look at you when you are about to tickle my toes
- Look up at you when you walk in the room, even if I'm playing with toys
- Watch as you sing and clap your hands and reach out to touch them
- Crawl to you as you call my name and hold out your arms

Intentional Communication

- □ I am learning you are the agent of change.
- Reach and look at you when you're holding something I want
- Use a loud voice and then notice that I got your attention
- Turn away from you when I'm finished eating
- Cry and look to you for help when I've dropped something
- Kick my feet excitedly and look at you when I see you coming to pick me up

Sharing & Managing Emotions

□ I can smile, laugh, <u>and</u> use my voice when I'm happy.

- Laugh and look at you when you make a silly noise
- Squeal with excitement when Grandma is about to pick me up
- Make happy sounds when I see you coming with my cup
- Giggle and look at you when the dog licks my arm
- Bounce up and down and use my excited voice when big brother comes in the room

Understanding Messages

- □ I can use different actions <u>and</u> sounds that show I anticipate what will happen next.
- Roll over to you when you walk in the room to be near you
- Start pushing on my tray when I know it's time to get down from my highchair
- Scoot away quickly and giggle when I hear you say "Gonna get you"
- Cruise over and pull on your pants when I see you drumming on your lap
- Hold my arm out to help when you put my shirt on



Self-Directed Learning

Emotional Regulation

- **Regulating Challenging Moments**
- □ I can use different actions <u>and</u> sounds, in addition to crying, when I'm upset.
- Cry and lay my head on my tray when my spoon falls down
- Whine and kick away my diaper while you're trying to change me
- Grab your arm and cry when you have to take the remote out of my hands
- Turn and hide my head on your shoulder when I'm afraid of the pop-up toy
- Use an upset voice and scoot away when you're trying to put my shoes on

Creating New Ideas

- □ I am interested in learning what I can do with objects.
- Explore your hair by rubbing and holding onto it while you carry me
- Bang a pot on the kitchen floor to hear the loud sound
- Splash my bath toys to see what will happen
- Drop cheerios on the floor and watch the dog come gobble them up
- Have fun smashing my banana on my tray



Social Interaction