

Just like learning to crawl, your baby needs to learn to see. To help you ensure that your baby has healthy vision during their first 12 months, follow along with these Vision Milestones. Keep in mind, as your child grows, that milestones can vary up to six weeks.

If you answer NO to any of the questions below, please take your baby to their primary care doctor for a vision assessment.

By 6 weeks to no later than 8 weeks old

Does your baby maintain stable eye contact when awake and alert? YES NO

During 3rd and 4th month

Does your baby smile when you are talking/singing/playing with him/her? YES NO

By 3rd, 4th, or 5th month

Does your baby watch his/her hands? YES NO

Does your baby bring his/her hands to their mouth? YES NO

By 5th month

Does your baby watch hand movements of other children and adults? YES NO

Does your baby copy hand movements of other children and adults? YES NO

Are your baby's eyes straight? YES NO

During 5th or 6th month

Does your baby reach for and grab objects? YES NO

Does your baby look at the object he/she is reaching for? YES NO

Does your baby watch other children playing? YES NO

During 7th, 8th, or 9th month

Does your baby recognize his/her family and caregivers by giving a smile? YES NO

Does your baby recognize the difference between family and strangers? YES NO

Does your baby recognize you in a group of people? YES NO

During 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th months

Does your baby point to pictures in books and make sounds? YES NO

Does your baby use their thumb and first finger to pick up objects? YES NO



Your Baby's Eyes (Continued)

Vision Care For Your Baby's Eyes

When you suspect a problem, you should take your baby to visit their primary care doctor. Your baby's doctor should perform a vision assessment at every appointment. Use these helpful tips to ensure you get the most out of your child's vision assessment.

Things to Ask Your Baby's Doctor:

- Are my baby's eyes aligned correctly?
- Do my baby's eyes respond to light?
- Do my baby's eyes track objects correctly?
- Is my baby's red reflex test normal?
- Are the muscles in my baby's eyes balanced?

If you have a history of vision problems in your family, let your baby's doctor know.

Your baby's doctor will provide you with a referral to an eye doctor if there is something that needs to be looked at further.

If You Need Help Finding an Eye Doctor:

Your baby's doctor may be able to give you the name of an eye doctor for your baby. For additional resources:

- If you have a private vision insurance plan – please contact your plan's Member Services to find an eye doctor.
- If you have BadgerCare Plus (Medicaid), please contact Member Services at 1-800-362-3002 or at memberservices@wisconsin.gov. Vision is a covered benefit.
- If you cannot afford vision care, InfantSEE is a program that may be available to your child. InfantSEE doctors will provide a no-cost comprehensive infant eye and vision assessment within the first year of life. Call 1-888-396-3937 or visit www.infantsee.org for more information.

For more information on your baby's vision health visit:
www.wisconsin.preventblindness.org or call 414-765-0505.

