

# 18 Vision Development Milestones From Birth to Baby's First Birthday

Milestones can vary by 6 weeks (except that baby's eyes should appear straight by the 5<sup>th</sup> month).  
If your child is not meeting milestones, please talk with your child's primary health care provider.

**START  
HERE**



Birth – 1<sup>st</sup> Month

Baby begins to focus on lights, faces, and objects 8 to 15 inches away from his/her face.

Baby begins to follow slowly moving lights, faces, and objects at near.

During 2<sup>nd</sup> + 3<sup>rd</sup> Months



Baby begins to notice his/her hands.

Baby makes eye contact with parent or caregiver.

Baby follows moving lights, faces, people, and objects with both eyes together.

Baby has a social smile.

During 3<sup>rd</sup> + 4<sup>th</sup> Months

Baby reaches for objects or parent's or caregiver's face.

By 5<sup>th</sup> Month

Baby's eyes appear straight.

Baby moves eyes from person to person or object to object.

Baby brings objects to his/her mouth.



Baby grasps and holds objects in his/her hands.

Baby watches his/her hand movements.

Neither of baby's eyes turn up, down, in, or out for several minutes at a time, either constantly\* or intermittently.\*\*

During 6<sup>th</sup> + 7<sup>th</sup> Months

Baby purposefully reaches for objects.



Baby follows objects with both his/her eyes at near (1 foot) and far (greater than 6 feet).

During 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, or 10<sup>th</sup> Months

Baby recognizes family and/or caregiver faces.

Baby looks at small objects, such as cereal or a raisin.

During 11<sup>th</sup> + 12<sup>th</sup> Months

Baby uses his/her index finger to point to pictures in a book OR looks for object dropped in container.



**END  
HERE**



\*Constantly and constant means the misalignment is present all the time and could be up, down, in, or out. \*\*Intermittently and intermittent means an eye turns in, out, up, or down, only for a short time.