

# Milestones

for speech, language, and hearing to look for as your child grows

## Birth to 3 Months

- » Blinks or jumps when there is a sudden loud sound
- » Quiets or smiles when spoken to
- » Makes sounds like “ohh” and “ahh”

## 4 to 6 Months

- » Looks for sounds with eyes
- » Makes many sounds, squeals, and chuckles
- » Makes different sounds when excited or angry

## 7 Months to 1 Year

- » Turns head toward loud sounds
- » Understands “no-no” or “bye-bye”
- » Babbles, for example “baba,” “mamma,” “gaga”
- » Repeats simple words and sounds you make
- » Correctly uses “mama” or “dada”
- » Responds to singing or music
- » Points to favorite toys and objects when asked

If you have questions about your baby’s hearing or your baby meeting these milestones, talk with your baby’s doctor.



# Your baby’s hearing screening results

Baby’s Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date and Time \_\_\_\_\_

Place \_\_\_\_\_

### Right Ear

Passed

Did not pass  
(needs more testing)

### Left Ear

Passed

Did not pass  
(needs more testing)

If your baby did not pass, the appointment below has been made for your baby’s next hearing screening.

*Please call if you need to reschedule.*

Date and Time \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

### Where can I get more information?

Call the Washington State Department of Health at 206-418-5613, or visit us online: [doh.wa.gov/earlyhearingloss](http://doh.wa.gov/earlyhearingloss)



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To request this document in another format, call 1-800-525-0127. Deaf or hard of hearing customers, please call 711 (Washington Relay) or email [civil.rights@doh.wa.gov](mailto:civil.rights@doh.wa.gov).

Information in this brochure is provided by the Health Resources and Services Administration and the Washington State Department of Health.



# Your Baby’s First Hearing Screening



## Why should my baby have a hearing screening?

- » Each year, about 170 babies born in Washington are identified as deaf or hard of hearing.
- » All babies are screened to find out who needs more testing.
- » It is important to know about your baby's hearing levels as soon as possible. Early support makes it easier for babies who are deaf or hard of hearing to learn.
- » There are many ways to help your baby right away if your baby is deaf or hard of hearing.



**Make sure your baby has a hearing screening before you leave the hospital.**

## What should I know about newborn hearing screening?

- » The screening is safe, painless, and can be done in about 10–20 minutes.
- » Most babies sleep through the screening.
- » Babies who are deaf or hard of hearing may cry or appear to respond to sounds just like other babies. Only a hearing screening can tell you if more testing is needed to find out if your baby is deaf or hard of hearing.
- » A list of places you can take your baby for a hearing screening is available at: [doh.wa.gov/hearingscreening](http://doh.wa.gov/hearingscreening).

## Why do some babies not pass the screening?

Some babies may need another screening because:

- » Fluid in the ear
- » Noise in the test room
- » Baby was moving a lot
- » Baby is deaf or hard of hearing

**If your baby does not pass the hearing screening, make sure the screening is done again before your baby is one month old.**

## Can a baby pass the hearing screening and still be deaf or hard of hearing?

Yes, some babies have enough hearing to pass the first screening, but lose hearing later because of:

- » Some illnesses
- » Some medicines
- » Some injuries
- » Being deaf/hard of hearing runs in their family (family history)

Watch for signs of changes in hearing as your baby grows. Use the list of milestones on the back cover as a guide.

