

Six Months In: Giggles, Grabs, & Growing Fast



Your baby's personality is starting to shine! They may babble, smile, or squeal to get your attention. It's fun – but sometimes confusing or tiring, too. Learning to understand each other takes time, patience, and love. You've got this!



What does Communication Skills mean?

You can teach your child to connect with you and the world around them by talking and playing with them daily. These simple activities help your child build strong language and social skills linked to school & career success.

Focus Your Attention on Communicating with Your Growing Baby

Why It Matters

Your baby talks to you with coos, cries, and giggles. When you respond, they start learning how to connect YOUR words and behavior with THEIR noises and actions. These moments are the foundation of learning language and key to building relationships!



Everyday Moments

What It Looks Like

During a diaper change your baby babbles and waves. You smile, look into their eyes, and say, "Yes, you are talking to me!" Your baby takes in your words, your smile, and the love of being seen and heard. This is true when they are squirming and squealing too! Remember to be patient and reflect gentle humor during diapering duels! They develop a sense of self-worth and value based on your responses and behaviors in these moments.



Simple Ways to Help Your Baby Communicate – A Checklist for You!

- ☐ Talk or sing to your baby during everyday moments like feeding, dressing, or playtime
- ☐ Make eye contact and answer their giggles with smiles and kind words
- ☐ Copy their sounds and pause so they can 'talk' back
- ☐ Use big expressions – smile, raise your eyebrows, look surprised
- ☐ Name things around them: "Here's your bottle!" "That's your bear!"
- ☐ Read and sing together—even if they just chew the book!
- ☐ Take care of yourself, too – Your calm helps your baby stay calm, too!

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Communication



Coping and Resilience



Understanding Feelings



Problem Solving



Self-perceived Competence



Conflict Resolution



Balancing Emotions



Diversity Awareness and Respect

Developed by a team of researchers at the University of Rhode Island in partnership with Brown University School of Public Health, The Greatest Eight™ is a project of the Washington County Coalition for Children. Funding for this effort was provided by Blue Cross Blue Shield of RI.

