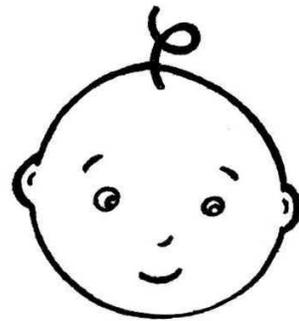


## By 6 months, your child should:

- turn to source of sounds
- startle in response to sudden, loud noises
- make different cries for different needs -- *I'm hungry, I'm tired*
- watch your face as you talk
- smile and laugh in response to your smiles and laughs
- imitate coughs or other sounds -- *ah, eh, buh*



If your baby is having difficulty with any of the above, contact

**Preschool Speech and Language:**

613-969-7400 x 2264 (Bancroft 613-332-2825 x 6208)

You do not need a doctor's referral.



## Babies like it when you:

- ❖ Get down to their level so they can see your face. This tells them that you're interested in what they're doing and saying and it makes it easier to interact with you.
- ❖ Respond to their vocalizations and actions and repeat the sounds they make. Copy or comment on the actions they make. Babies enjoy making noises, and like it when you imitate them over and over. It sets the stage for turn taking as they get older.
- ❖ Sing and laugh, especially when you are feeding, bathing, and changing them. Remember to talk to your baby throughout the day about things you do and see - *Mommy's putting on her coat*; or *That's a big truck*. Speak affectionately and keep the words simple.
- ❖ Tell them the names of the objects they are looking at and playing with. Babies are interested in exploring and learning about new things, and like to hear what things are called.
- ❖ Play interactive games like *Peek-a-Boo*, *This Little Piggy Went to Market*, and *Pat a Cake*. Sing interactive songs like *Head and Shoulders* while touching that part of your baby's body.
- ❖ Read a simple story at bed time or nap time, since it is never too early to start reading. Monitor your baby's interest level.