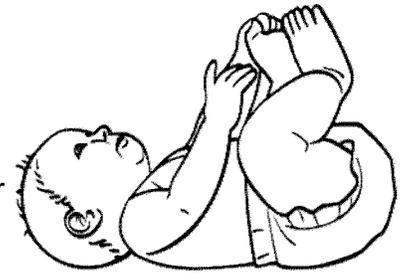


By 9 months, your child should:

- respond to his/her name
- respond to the telephone ringing or a knock at the door
- understand being told *no*
- get what he/she wants through gestures e.g. reaching to be picked up
- play social games with you e.g. *Peek-a-Boo*
- enjoy being around people
- babble and repeat sounds such as *babababa, duhduhduh*



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. It makes it easier to interact.
- ❖ Play interactive games like *This Little Piggy Went to Market*, or *Pat a Cake*, as well as the old favourite, *Peek-a-Boo*. Sing songs like *Head and Shoulders* while touching those parts of your baby's body gently. Repeat the sounds they make. Babies enjoy making noises, and like it when you imitate them over and over.
- ❖ 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*. Point to things that you know may interest your baby, encouraging them to look at it, and share the excitement of something novel.
- ❖ 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. Use an exaggerated or lively tone so that the words stand out.
- ❖ Read simple colourful board books to them, especially at nap time and bed time. Watch their interest level.