

A pink graphic consisting of two overlapping rounded rectangular shapes. The top shape is a lighter shade of pink and has a circular hole on its left side. The bottom shape is a darker shade of pink and has a circular hole on its right side. The text is centered within the top shape.

Development- Eighteen Months

Your toddler is very busy exploring the world around them, it can hard to keep up with them. Your toddler will use a combination of real words, made up words, sounds and gestures to communicate with you.

At Eighteen months you may notice your toddler

- May sleep through the night from 7 pm to 7 am
- Enjoys being around family and other children
- Plays alone but around someone familiar
- Express emotions and shows affection
- Showing needs in other ways other than crying
- Is smiling and laughing
- Make eye contact with you when you talk to them
- Saying more words between 5-10
- Learning new words every day
- Understanding short directions
- Pretend play
- Turning their head to their name
- Walking
- Learning to run
- Claps hands
- Pointing
- Waving
- Recognises themselves in the mirror
- Is finger feeding and learning to use a spoon
- Drinking out of a sippy/straw cup



How to help your Baby Develop

- Play with your toddler inside and outside
- Take your toddler to the park
- Organise play times with other children or attend a play group
- Read and sing to your toddler
- Have lots of conversations with your toddler
- Do some craft or painting
- Praise your toddler when they learn a new skill
- Smile and laugh with your toddler
- Cuddle your toddler regularly
- Try new experiences with your toddler
- Safe proof your house
- Have family meals together

