

# Autism

## Learn the signs



*Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a developmental disorder that can affect how a child plays, learns, speaks, and acts. One in 59 children has been identified with ASD in the U.S. ASD is four times more common in boys. Starting services early helps children with ASD reach their full potential.*

## What to do

**If you are concerned about how your child is developing:**

- Check some of the milestones on the back of this card.
- Talk with your child's health care provider.
- Call Help Me Grow at 866-693-4769.
- Visit the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and MDH websites for information, support and resources.
- **DON'T WAIT!** Acting early can make a real difference.

# Milestones

If your baby or toddler has these signs or symptoms, talk to their health care provider and contact Help Me Grow.

## BY 2 MONTHS OLD

- Doesn't watch things as they move.
- Doesn't smile at people.

## BY 6 MONTHS OLD

- Pulls away when cuddled.

## BY 9 MONTHS OLD

- Doesn't respond to their own name.
- Only plays on their own.

## BY 12 MONTHS OLD

- Doesn't say single words ("mama," "dada").

## BY 2 YEARS OLD

- Has trouble communicating feelings.

**OR ANY LOSS OF SKILLS AT ANY AGE.**

## For more information

- **Help Me Grow Minnesota**  
<http://www.helpmegrowmn.org>
- **MDH Autism Spectrum Disorder**  
<http://www.health.mn.gov/diseases/autism>
- **Minnesota Department of Human Services**  
<http://www.mn.gov/dhs/autism>
- **CDC Autism Spectrum Disorder**  
<http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism>



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*To obtain this information in a different format, call 651-201-5414. Printed on recycled paper. 8/19*