The Nipissing District Developmental Screen is a checklist designed to help monitor your child’s development.

BY EIGHTEEN MONTHS OF AGE, DOES YOUR CHILD:

1. Identify pictures in a book? (“show me the baby”)*
2. Use a variety of familiar gestures? (waving, pushing, giving, reaching up)*
3. Follow directions using “on” and “under”? (“put the cup on the table”)*
4. Make at least four different consonant sounds? (b, n, d, h, g, w)*
5. Point to at least three different body parts when asked? (“where is your nose?”)*
6. Say 20 or more words? (words do not have to be clear)
7. Hold a cup to drink?**
8. Pick up and eat finger food?
9. Help with dressing by putting out arms and legs?**
10. Walk up a few stairs holding your hand?
11. Walk alone?
12. Squat to pick up a toy and stand back up without falling?
13. Push and pull toys or other objects while walking forward? A
14. Stack three or more blocks?
15. Show affection towards people, pets, or toys?
16. Point to show you something?
17. Look at you when you are talking or playing together?

* Examples provided are only suggestions. You may use similar examples from your family experience.
** Item may not be common to all cultures.
Instructions for the Nipissing District Developmental Screen®

The NDDS is a developmental screening tool designed to be completed by a parent or caregiver. It provides a snapshot of your child’s development to discuss with your health care or child care professional. The ages and areas of development covered by the NDDS include vision, hearing, emotional, fine motor, gross motor, social, self-help, communication, and learning and thinking. The screens coincide with key developmental stages up to age six.

1. Choose the screen that matches your child’s age

The ages are noted on each screen. If your child falls between two ages, use the earlier age (for example: if your child is 4½ years old use the 4 year old screen). Health care professionals may want to correct for prematurity based on their current clinical practice.

2. Answer the questions to the best of your ability

If you are not sure, try the question with your child before checking yes or no. Any examples provided are only suggestions. You may use similar examples from your family experience. The language and communication items can be asked in the child’s first language. Items marked with ** may not be common to all cultures.

3. Follow-up with your health care and/or child care professional

If you answer “no” to any question or have any concerns about your child’s development, follow-up with your health care and/or child care professional.

Activities for your child

While the skills in each screen are expected to be mastered by most children by the age shown, the activities may be a bit more challenging. You can practice with your child to prepare him/her for the next developmental stage. To help you, each activity has a symbol that represents the main area of development.

If you have questions or concerns about using any activity for your child, contact a health care or child care professional.

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The Screen Forms are sold with the understanding that NDDS® is not engaged in rendering health care, child care, medical or other professional services.

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