



Fast Facts

Why Developmental Screening and Early Intervention are Critical

- ★ **80%** of a child's brain develops between **birth and age 3**.
- ★ **90%** of a child's brain develops **before age 5**.
- ★ **Between 16-18%** of children have **developmental delays or disabilities**.
- ★ **1 in 36** children has **autism spectrum disorder**.

7.5 months is the average age at which families report concerns about their child.

1 in 3 infants and toddlers who received **early intervention services** did not later present with a disability or require special education in preschool.

93% of families receiving early intervention services for their child report that the services are either good or excellent, according to a study published by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

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Intervention BEFORE kindergarten is crucial!

Studies have shown that children who receive early intervention for developmental delays are more likely to:

- Graduate from high school
- Hold jobs
- Live independently
- Avoid teen pregnancy, delinquency, and violent crime

Identifying and addressing **social-emotional problems** early **reduces** the need for **special education**.

All infants and young children should be **screened as part of their ongoing health care** to ensure they are meeting developmental milestones. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends screening using standardized, validated tools like the Ages & Stages Questionnaire.