

Lesson 9 Autism and ADHD

Caring for the whole child – mind, body and spirit

Psalms 139:13-14

“For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.”

Developmental Milestones – Examples of Social, Communication and Language Skills

Age	Social/Communication	Language
Newborn	Regards face	Cries
2 month	Responds to voice Smiles responsively	Coos “ooh, aah” and vocalizes
4 month	Turns to sound	Laughs and squeals
6 month	Responds to name	Babbles
9 month	Wave bye-bye Claps Plays peek-a-boo Stranger anxiety	Dada and Mama (non-specific)
12 month	Points and uses sound to indicate interest Gives and takes toys Responds to “no”	Dada and Mama (specific) 1-3 other words
18 month	Names pictures in book Follow simple directions Imitates others	4-20 words
2 years	Parallel play Follow 2 step commands Points to objects when named	> 50 words 2 word sentences (noun + verb)
3 years	Plays with others Engages with book (pretending to read) Knows name, age, gender of self	Speech is ~ 75% intelligible to stranger 3-4 word sentences
4 years	Imaginary or pretend play Takes turns, helps, shares Follows directions	Speech is ~100% intelligible to stranger
5 years	Cooperative play Tells stories	Fully intelligible speech
6 years and above	<i>Assess for parental or teacher concerns for behavior, social interactions or academic performance</i>	

This is for educational purposes only. If you are concerned about your child’s development, please seek advice from your child’s pediatrician

Autism

- Autism spectrum disorder
- Key clinical features include:
 - Perpetual impairment in communication and social interaction skills
 - Restricted and repetitive behaviors, interests and activities
- Some “red flag” signs
 - No babbling by 9 months
 - No pointing by 12 months
 - Does not respond to name by 12 months
 - No single words by 16 months
 - Lack of pretend play by 18 months
 - No purposeful two word phrases by 24 months
 - Loss of language or social skills that was previously obtained
 - Any parental concerns
- Importance of attending regularly scheduled well-child checks and assess developmental milestones

ADHD

- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
- ADHD symptoms (not all inclusive)
 - Hyperactivity
 - Fidgetiness
 - Overly talkative
 - Always “on the go”
 - Inability to sit still
 - Impulsivity
 - Disruptive behavior
 - Inability to wait turns
 - Interrupting others
 - Inattention
 - Easily distracted
 - Unable to concentrate
 - Disorganized
 - Losing things
 - Forgetfulness

Resources

- Center for Disease Control and Prevention – Developmental Milestones
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/index.html>
- Healthy Children (Sponsored by the American Academy of Pediatrics)
 - <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/Pages/default.aspx>
- Autism Speaks
 - <https://www.autismspeaks.org>
- Center for Parent Information and Resources
 - <http://www.parentcenterhub.org/>
- American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
 - http://www.aacap.org/AACAP/Families_and_Youth/Facts_for_Families/FFF-Guide/Children-Who-Cant-Pay-Attention-Attention-Deficit-Hyperactivity-Disorder-006.aspx