

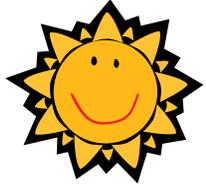
**Does your child need help?** Many children are born with, or acquire, conditions which interfere with their growth and educational development.

Fortunately, many of these conditions can be helped if parents and others recognize the problem early enough and seek help. We have listed here some of the early signs that indicate a problem might exist. If you suspect your child may have special educational needs, a free evaluation of your children's development is available. These problems can often be corrected through programs that are available through your school district or children's therapeutic centers.

### Early Warning Signs

<b>Hearing</b> If your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Did not get startled by loud sounds from birth to 3 months</li><li>• Did not turn towards sounds at age 3 months</li><li>• Has frequent ear aches or running noses</li><li>• Always speaks in a very loud or soft voice</li><li>• Omits parts of words</li><li>• Doesn't seem to hear when spoken to</li></ul>	<b>Moving</b> (continued) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Is unable to sit up without support by age 1</li><li>• Does not use crayon or pencil to scribble by age 2</li><li>• Can't walk without help by age 2</li><li>• Is unable to build a tower with 3 blocks by age 3</li><li>• Doesn't walk up and down steps by age 3</li><li>• Is unable to balance on one foot for a short time by age 4</li><li>• Can't throw a ball overhead and catch a large ball bounced back by age 5</li></ul>
<b>Talking</b> If your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Isn't cooing and vocalizing by 3 months</li><li>• Isn't babbling by 6 months</li><li>• Doesn't respond to spoken words by age 1</li><li>• Does not ask for items by name by age 2</li><li>• Isn't understandable when talking by age 3</li><li>• Isn't talking in short sentences by age 4</li></ul>	<b>Playing</b> If your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Doesn't play games such as peek-a-boo, patty cake, or wave bye-bye, by age 1</li><li>• Doesn't imitate parents doing routine household chores by age 2 or 3</li><li>• Doesn't enjoy playing alone with toys, pots and pans, sand, etc. by age 3</li><li>• Doesn't play group play games such as hide-and-seek, tag ball, etc. with other children by age 5</li></ul>
<b>Moving</b> If your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Is unable to lift his head and chest while lying on abdomen by 3 months</li><li>• Is unable to roll from back to abdomen by 6 months</li></ul>	<b>Thinking</b> If your child: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Doesn't react to name when called by age 1</li><li>• Isn't able to point to and identify hair, eyes, ears, nose by age 2</li><li>• Isn't able to understand simple stories by age 3</li><li>• Isn't able to give answers to reasonable answers to such questions as, "What do you do when you're sleepy?" or "What do you do when you are hungry?" by age 4</li><li>• Doesn't seem to understand the meaning of today, tomorrow, or yesterday by age 5</li></ul>

If your child does not meet the levels of development suggested above, it may be a sign that a problem exists. You can contact Melissa Horton, Preschool Coordinator/School Psychologist, Tahoma School District: 425-413-3579 or [mhorton@tahomasd.us](mailto:mhorton@tahomasd.us).



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