



"Musical" The
Sound
of Joy



Four to Six months



Your baby is becoming more and more expressive, isn't he?

Moving his arms and making all kinds of sounds, cooing and babbling. As your bundle of joy grows, his personality is also starting to develop.

He can now recognise you and respond to your calls. Do take time to introduce books, objects, sounds and actions when bonding with him.

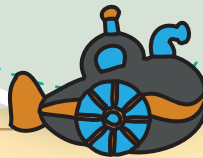
You'll be amazed at how much he can imitate you!

As he reaches six months, it would be good to safety-proof your home for him to explore the surroundings safely. He will be reaching out to the things he likes and putting them in his mouth!

This is how he explores and learns about the world around him. His natural curiosity will increase as he becomes more mobile. Try putting his favourite toy slightly out of reach so he can practise moving towards it!

How I Grow

- I can hold up my head steadily and turn it to look at you.
- I am able to flip from my back to my stomach and may move around by rolling.
- I may wriggle forward and backwards while lying down.
- I can move objects from one hand to another.
- I can sit up with some help.
- I like to put things in my mouth.



- I recognise and respond to different voice intonations.
- I can form a variety of sounds to express myself, such as cooing, babbling and gurgling.
- I can imitate various tones.
- I watch your mouth when you talk to me.
- I may begin producing vowel sounds (oh's and ah's) and move on to consonant sounds such as P's, M's, B's and D's.

How I Communicate



aaaahh
ooohh

How I Respond

- I show preferences towards my primary caregiver and make sounds and gestures to attract her attention.
- I may show shyness towards strangers.
- I love playing 'peekaboo' among other games.

How I Understand

- I can recognise familiar objects like my comfort toy.
- I am beginning to differentiate myself and my various body parts from the rest of the world.
- I recognise and respond when my name is called.
- I see and reach out to objects that I want and can pick up to play with them.



How I Feel

- My personality is starting to develop.
- I can display a wider variety of feelings.
- I can communicate my feelings through a range of sounds, actions and facial expressions.



How I Grow

- Place me in various positions to help develop my physical skills such as rolling, creeping or kicking. Put my favourite toy just out of my reach so that I am encouraged to wiggle towards it or kick it with my feet.
- Provide me with both back- and tummy-time. Help me to sit up. I get to see things from different angles and observe what is going on around me.
- Rock me gently as I sit on your lap, or bounce me gently up and down.
- Encourage me to hold my spoon, milk bottle or finger food during feeding time
- Provide me with different objects to play with - small balls, household items like wooden spoons and plastic cups, etc.



- Read books to me as part of my naptime routine and help me develop a love for books. Use different intonations for different characters.
- Have “conversations” with me to encourage me to ‘talk’ more.
- Imitate my sounds and actions.
- Dramatise your expressions and actions to amuse and encourage conversation with me.



How I Communicate



How I Respond

- Introduce me to any guests that come around.
- Play simple games like 'peekaboo' and 'this little piggy' with me.
- Respond to my sounds to encourage me to communicate more with you.

Peekaboo!!!



How I Understand



- Let me explore objects of different textures, shapes, sizes and colours.
- Show me different ways of playing with objects by shaking, banging, pushing or dropping them.
- Play ball with me. We can roll, bounce or push it around. Simple shape-sorters would be fun too!
- Show me how to make various sounds with objects. Shake a rattle, clap my hands together, squeeze my rubber ducky, or beat on a plastic lid.
- Point to different parts of my body and name each part for me. Play simple games or sing simple songs about body parts “Head and shoulders, knees and toes”.

How I Feel

- Help me name my actions and reactions (“You’re splashing water all over Mummy!” “Oh, you’re laughing at the funny duck!”).
- Engage me in “conversations”.
- Provide me with a mirror, reflective surfaces or my photograph.
- Acknowledge my expressions and sounds. (I hear you, baby. Are you hungry now?)

