

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY: EARLY INTERVENTION

SCREENING CHECKLIST

Occupational therapists can use the checklist to screen a child aged birth to 3 years on their developmental status with fine motor, visual motor, and self-help skills. The checklist can be used to screen for services and provide additional information for evaluations

Child's Name: _____	Date of Birth: _____	Age: _____
School: _____	Teacher: _____	Grade: _____
Therapist: _____	Date: _____	

Birth – 3 months

Skills	Yes	No
Tracks a visual stimulus from child's side to midline		
Looks at hands		
Blinks at a sudden visual stimulus		
Follows a visual stimulus by moving eyes upward		
Follows a visual stimulus by moving eyes downward		
Scratches fingers along fabric, like blanket and clothes		
Tightly grasps objects when they are placed in the child's hands		
Briefly holds objects, like rattle, that are placed in the child's hands		
Arms become active when sees a preferred or colorful toy		
Bears some weight on forearms when placed on stomach		
Brings hands together briefly at midline when placed on back		
Turns head to each side when placed on back		
Holds head up briefly when place on stomach		

Comments:

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3-6 months

Skills	Yes	No
Looks at objects that are at least 3 feet away		
Eyes follows an object without moving head		
Tracks objects from child's side across their midline		
Notices small-size objects (e.g., items smaller than 3 inches)		
Mouths objects		
Mouths hands		
Grasps block with palm		
Extends arms towards a rattle or toy		
Clasps hands together at midline when placed on back		
Props self-up onto forearms when placed on stomach		
Pushes up onto elbows or forearms when placed on their stomach		
Uses arms to pivot body when placed on stomach		
Places both hands on a bottle briefly when fed		

Comments:

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6-9 months

Skills	Yes	No
Looks at pictures		
Drops objects		
Shakes toys, like a rattle		
Touches or bangs objects on a surface, like a table		
Rotates wrists when holding a toy		
Reaches for an object with a hand		
Transfers objects from hand to hand		
Feeds self a cracker or meltable finger foods		
Holds and drinks from a bottle or drinkable cups, such as spouted cups		
Uses a raking grasp to pick up small objects		
Transfers objects from hand to hand		
Uses arms to engage in simple rhyme moves, such as "Peek a Boo,"		
Pulls to standing by using upper body		
Leans on hands to a support seating position		
Catches self when loses balance when sitting		

Comments:

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9-12 months

Skills	Yes	No
Uses a tripod grasp (thumb, index finger, and middle finger)		
Uses a pincer grasp (thumb and index finger)		
Pokes objects with index finger		
Releases objects on a surface, like ground		
Puts objects into a large size container		
Claps hands		
Stacks 2 large size blocks but may not balance them		
Bangs objects together at midline		
Removes rings from a stacking toy pole		
Uses arms to crawl when placed on hands and knees		
Transitions from laying down to sitting up without assistance		
Holds lower body extremities out for dressing (e.g., pants)		
Holds upper body extremities out for dressing (e.g., shirt)		

Comments:

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12-18 months

Skills	Yes	No
Points to objects with index finger		
Holds an object with one hand and uses the other hand to manipulate it		
Spontaneously scribbles on paper		
Stacks 2-3 blocks		
Dumps objects out of a container		
Places more than 3 blocks into a cup		
Places a circle into a simple shapes puzzle		
Turns 2-3 thick pages of a book		
Turns knobs		
Puts spoon into food (not scoop) and brings to mouth		
Holds a spouted cup by the handle		
Takes off a hat		
Tries to put on shoes		
Pulls socks off		

Comments:

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18-24 months

Skills	Yes	No
Uses fingers to hold a block		
Releases objects onto a surface		
Holds crayon with fistful hand		
Paints with whole arm movements and shifts hands to make strokes		
Builds a tower with 2-6 blocks		
Pulls apart medium to large size pop beads		
Places medium size pegs into a pegboard		
Opens mouth for teeth to be brushed		
Helps with simple household activities, such as putting away toys		
Uses a spoon to scoop food with some spillage		
Tries to wash hands		
Cooperates and assists with dressing and undressing, such as helps with putting arms into arm holes		
Takes off shoes that have been loosened		
Zips and unzips a large zipper		

Comments:

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24-30 months

Skills	Yes	No
Activates toys by pushing, winding, and sliding		
Snips with scissors		
Imitates horizontal and vertical lines		
Strings at least 2 large size beads		
Stacks 6-8 blocks to build a tower		
Places 2-5 rings onto a stacking toy pole		
Puts together medium to large size pop beads		
Folds paper in half		
Uses fork to spear food with some spillage		
Uses spoon to scoop food with some spillage		
Tries to wash face		
Imitates parents when brushing teeth		
Washes hands with some assistance		
Pushes pants down and pulls pants up with some assistance		
Tries to put on shoes		

Comments:

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30-36 months

Skills	Yes	No
Holds a crayon with thumb and fingers (not fist)		
Turns single, thin pages in book		
Uses one hand consistently for most activities		
Builds a 4-block train design		
Builds a 3-block bridge design		
Builds a tower with at least 8 blocks		
Copies a circle		
Takes off shoes that have not been loosened		
Puts shoes on with some assistance		
Puts socks on with some assistance		
Pulls down and take off pants that has no fasteners		
Dries hands		
Takes off a pull over shirt		
Puts on a jacket or front open shirt without using the fasteners		
Removes front opening clothes, such as jackets		
Sits on a toilet for at least 1 minute		

Comments:

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The design of the screening checklist was influenced by:

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