

Using the Idaho Early Learning eGuidelines

Caring for Idaho's Infants and Toddlers was developed for parents, caregivers, and professionals who work with young children. It offers tips, suggestions, and resources for how to respond to children from birth to 36 months of age.

What are the Idaho Early Learning eGuidelines?

The Idaho Early Learning eGuidelines are a resource to help guide children's development and learning. They provide guidelines and strategies to help caregivers and teachers understand and support the development of children. They are a comprehensive document, designed to guide practice and policymaking for young children.



The Idaho Early Learning eGuidelines allow anyone to access online information, broad or specific, about how young children grow and learn. You can find them at www.earlychildhood.dhw.idaho.gov.

Purpose and Use of This Book

Caring for Idaho's Infants and Toddlers is a resource that uses the eGuidelines to support the growth and development of children from birth through 36 months. It applies in many settings: children's homes, others' homes, child care programs, early intervention programs, Early Head Start programs, and private and faith-based programs.

Acknowledgement and Gratitude

We wish to acknowledge and thank our contributors.

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Areas of Development

Caring for Idaho's Infants and Toddlers covers five areas (or “domains”) of development:



These domains are covered in-depth in the Early Learning eGuidelines. The eGuidelines use child indicators and caregiver strategies to discuss experiences and development for different age ranges.

Each section of *Caring for Idaho's Infants and Toddlers* includes references to relevant sections in the eGuidelines. For example, if you are reading “Toilet Learning,” you will find a list of related Early Learning eGuideline domains, goals, and age ranges at the bottom of the page. Toilet Learning spans 4 of the 5 domains, including: Domain 1, Approaches to Learning and Cognition; Domain 2, Physical Well-Being, Health and Nutrition; Domain 3, Social and Emotion Development; and Domain 5, Communication, Language and Literacy. Here’s an example of what this list looks like:

“Idaho Early Learning eGuidelines: D1G3 16-38, D2G23 16-38, D3G28 16-38, D5G51 16-38...”

(D) indicates the domain of development and (G) is the goal within that domain. The numbers that follow indicate the age range (in months) in the eGuidelines for that goal.

Keep in mind that areas of a child’s development are not distinct or separate. Instead, they work together to support the healthy growth of the child.

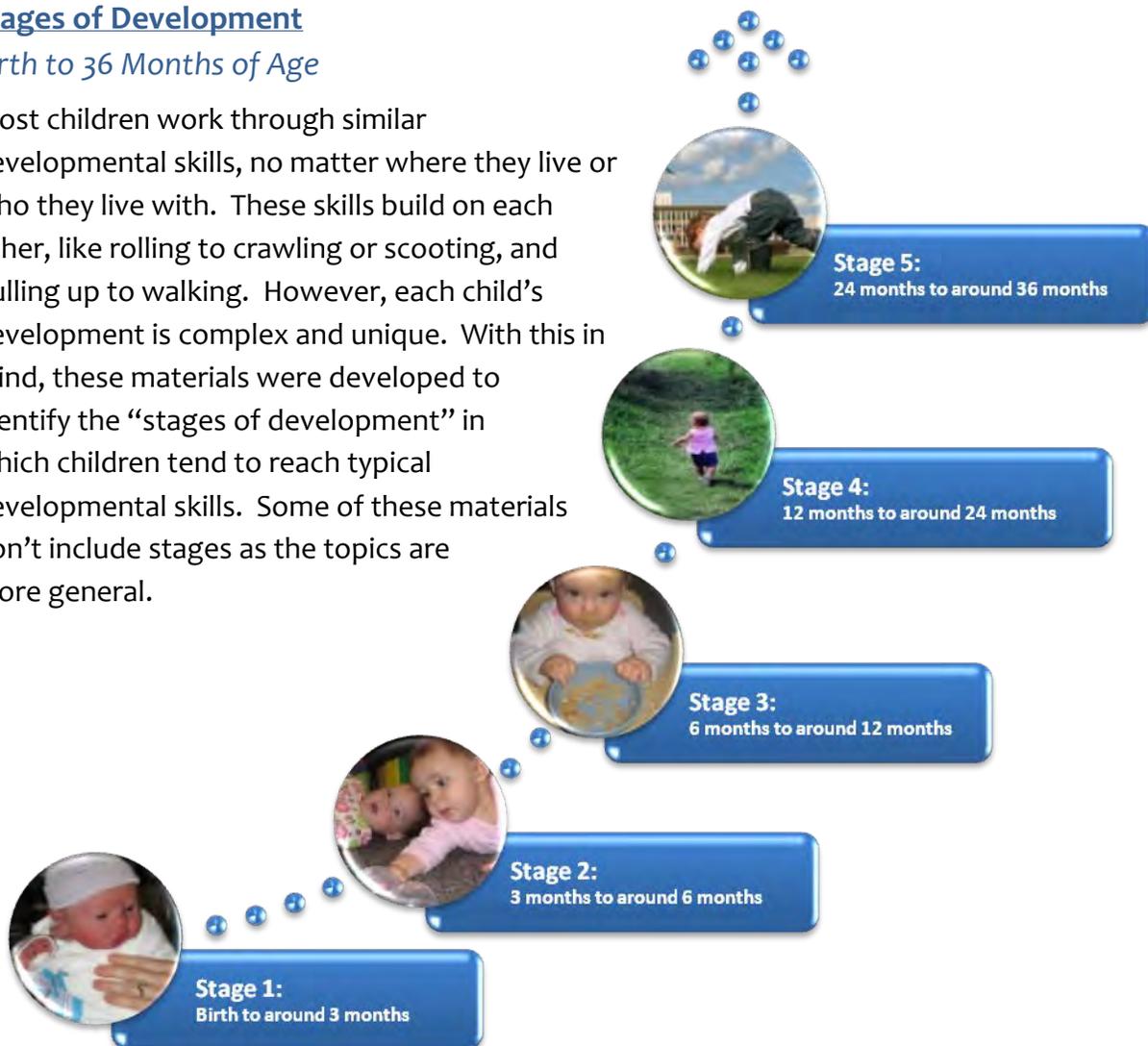
Age Ranges

As a parent or caregiver, you see every day that each child's growth and development is unique. Even twins show differences depending on their temperament, interest, and health. Some crawl, walk, or talk very early. Others take a little more time to watch others and practice their skills. We also know that many children are born with a developmental delay or impairment, or are very ill during their early years. These children can accomplish great things, but they need more time and support to master skills.

Stages of Development

Birth to 36 Months of Age

Most children work through similar developmental skills, no matter where they live or who they live with. These skills build on each other, like rolling to crawling or scooting, and pulling up to walking. However, each child's development is complex and unique. With this in mind, these materials were developed to identify the "stages of development" in which children tend to reach typical developmental skills. Some of these materials don't include stages as the topics are more general.



To learn more about the Early Learning eGuidelines, visit <http://www.earlychildhood.dhw.idaho.gov>.