



Collaboration for Early Childhood, *Strong Start Bright Future*
123 Madison, Room 209
Oak Park, IL 60302 708-613-6122
www.collab4kids.org

Developmental Screening Frequently Asked Questions

What are developmental screenings?

Height and weight are often used to measure a child's physical growth. Well baby/child visits to your pediatrician and immunizations help keep track of and support your child's continuous and normal growth.

A child's development can also be measured by how a child learns, speaks, moves, behaves and relates.

Skills such as smiling, waving, talking and walking are developmental milestones. Progress on these milestones can be monitored with regular **developmental screenings throughout childhood.**

A screening tool is often a questionnaire that is completed by a parent or caregiver. A professional works with the family in reviewing the results.

Physical exams, vision and hearing tests AND DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENINGS are all important ways of monitoring how a child is growing.

Why is developmental screening important?

Developmental screenings can improve our children's health and well-being by identifying children at risk for developmental delays. A screening does not diagnose a child with a disability but it may suggest a need for further evaluation; a warning sign. A screening is not meant to replace a health check up with your child's doctor.

Developmental screening will:

- Increase early identification of children's strengths, as well as developmental and behavioral concerns
- Improve access to early treatment
- Create a relationship between families and their child's caregiver, service provider or doctor
- Teach parents and caregivers about their child's development
- Promote healthy behavior and development

Who should be screened?

All children birth through age 5 should be screened regularly (at least 1-2 times per year) prior to school entry.

When should my child be screened?

- It is never too early to have a developmental screening, especially if you are concerned about your child's development.
- Children should be screened early and often.
- The earlier a concern is identified, the sooner a child can get help.
- The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends developmental screening at regular intervals with a high-quality screening tool.

What makes a screening tool high quality? What screening tool are we talking about?

For a screening tool to be considered high quality it must be reliable and valid. For a screening tool to be reliable and valid extensive research and sampling of the tool is required, prior to its publication.

The Collaboration for Early Childhood, early childhood centers in Oak Park and River Forest and pediatrician offices use Ages and Stages Questionnaire, Third edition (ASQ-3) and Ages and Stages Questionnaire: Social-Emotional, Second edition (ASQ: SE-2).

What are Ages and Stages Questionnaire- 3 (ASQ-3) and Ages and Stages Questionnaire Social-Emotional (ASQ: SE-2)?

ASQ-3 is a parent-completed, accurate, family-friendly way to screen children for developmental delays between one month and 5 ½ years, without any gaps between the questionnaire age intervals. ASQ-3 is highly valid and reliable. Questions on behavior and communication also help elicit any parent concerns. Screening children with ASQ-3 at regular intervals to monitor their progress and catch concerns as early as possible is an important step parents and teachers need to take to ensure that children are prepared for success.

ASQ: SE-2 is also parent-completed, accurate and family friendly. The ASQ: SE-2 screens children's social, emotional and behavioral development, also between one month and 6 years of age. The ASQ: SE-2 is also research-based, valid and reliable. With questionnaire results, professionals can quickly recognize young children at risk for social or emotional difficulties, identify behaviors of concern to caregivers, and identify any need for further assessment.

Screening children with ASQ-3 and ASQ: SE-2 at regular intervals to monitor their progress and catch concerns as early as possible is an important step parents and teachers need to take to ensure that teachers are individualizing their planning for children so that children are prepared for success.

Who do I contact to complete a screening or with questions or for help completing a screening?

You can access the screening tools, **Ages and Stages Questionnaire-3 (ASQ-3) and Ages and Stages Questionnaire: Social-Emotional -2 (ASQ:SE-2), for your children at no cost to you. The screening tools are accessed using these web links;**

English - ASQ-3: <https://www.asqonline.com/family/c97b18> ASQ:SE-2: <https://www.asqonline.com/family/4d2955>

Spanish - ASQ-3: <https://www.asqonline.com/family/4e1b84> ASQ:SE-2: <https://www.asqonline.com/family/55f1fb>

Shannon Ellison, is the Developmental Screening Coordinator for the Collaboration for Early Childhood. Feel free to call Shannon with any questions or need of information. She can be reached at 708-613-6122.

What happens after my child has been screened?

If the screening shows that your child is doing well developmentally, it is important to continue to monitor development with **regular screenings**. You can access new screening questionnaires based on your child's age. There are 21 age-appropriate ASQ-3 questionnaires for use between ages 1 and 66 months and 9 age-appropriate ASQ:SE-2 questionnaires for use between ages 1 and 72 months.

The Collaboration's Developmental Screening Coordinator, Shannon Ellison, will review submitted screenings and will provide you with information regarding screening results and discuss results with you. Feel free to call Shannon with questions or concerns.

English ASQ-3: <https://www.asqonline.com/family/c97b18>
English ASQ:SE-2: <https://www.asqonline.com/family/4d2955>

Spanish ASQ-3: <https://www.asqonline.com/family/4e1b84>
Spanish ASQ:SE-2: <https://www.asqonline.com/family/55f1fb>

Complete an ASQ-3 and ASQ:SE-2 screening today!