

Independent Walker

Feeding Checklist

	Feeding	Appropriate	Feeding	•		
Newborn	 Milestones Latches on to nipple or bottle Tongue moves forward and back to suck Drinks 2 to 6 oz. of liquid per feeding, 6 times per day Sucks and swallows well during feeding 	Foods Breast milk and/or formula 	 A newborn's digestive tract and control of muscles of the mouth are still developing, so they should not be eating any solid foods 	0 to 3 Months		
Supported Sitter	 Shows interest in food Opens mouth as spoon approaches Moves pureed food from front of mouth to back Begins to eat cereals and pureed food 	 Breast milk and/or formula Infant cereal Smooth, pureed food (single ingredient only), like carrots, sweet potato, squash, apples, pears 	 Homemade purees should have a thick liquid consistency Make batches of homemade purees and freeze them in ice cube trays. Thaw purees before feeding them to your baby Babies often explore items by putting them in their mouth, be aware of choking hazards Having a stronger core and more control over their neck and head movement is important for introducing solids 	4 to 6 Months		
Crawler/Independent Sitter	 In a highchair, holds and drinks from a bottle Begins to eat thicker pureed and mashed table foods Enjoys chew toys that can massage sore and swollen gums during teething Stays full longer after eating Starts to look and reach for objects, such as, food that is nearby Shows strong reaction to new smells and tastes 	 Breast milk and/or formula Pureed foods Yogurt Soft, mashed foods: Baked Potato Sweet Potato Soft finger foods like: Mashed, hardboiled egg yolk Small pieces of ripe banana Small pieces of pasteurized cheese Soft breads Soft-cooked carrots 	 When first introducing thicker purees, mix with a thin puree Vary thinner purees and thicker purees Majority of baby's nutrition should still come from breast milk or formula Introduce new foods one at a time Eat together at the table during mealtimes Allow your child to play with food and get messy 	7 to 9 Months		
Beginning Walker	 Finger feeds self Eating an increasing variety of food Begins to use an open cup Ready to try soft- cooked vegetables, soft fruits, and finger foods (teething biscuits, cooked pasta) Might be ready to start 	 Breast milk and/or formula Chopped foods like: Scrambled egg yolk Shredded chicken Sliced deli meats cut into small pieces Strips of cheese 	 Child should be eating 3 meals per day plus several healthy snacks Use chop option on food processor to serve child the same meal you are eating at an appropriate consistency or mash with fork 	10 to 12 Months		

•	 self feeding with utensils Enjoys a greater variety of smells and tastes 			
	 Increases variety of coarsely chopped table foods Holds and drinks from a cup 	 With pediatrician's approval milk is typically introduced at 1 year old Fruit cut into small cubes or strips Bite-sized, soft, cooked vegetables like carrots Mixed food textures: macaroni and cheese, casseroles Finger foods like: Small pieces of bagel/ sandwich Cooked pasta Low sugar cereal 	 Encourage self feeding with utensils Remember: you are in charge of what your baby eats and your baby is in charge of how much they eat 	12 Months and up
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