

***FOR MORE INFORMATION***

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CARD-USF serves the following counties:  
Charlotte, Collier, Collier, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands,  
Hillsborough, Lee, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, and Sarasota.



***Autism Indicators***



**Behavioral indicators of autism** do not have a distinct onset in very young children, but instead emerge throughout the early developmental period from 0-24 months of age.

**If the child does not....**

**By 12 mos.**

- Repeatedly use simple gestures to get needs met
- Play social games
- Make repetitious babbling sounds

**By 15 mos.**

- Use reciprocal communication through facial expressions and gestures
- Draw the attention of another person to an interesting item or activity
- Use and understand at least three words

**By 18 mos.**

- Use gestures in combination with words, such as pointing and saying “Oh, look!”.
- Use and understand at least 10 words
- Do simple pretend play such as moving a stuffed doggy and saying “Woof! Woof! Woof!”

**By 24 mos.**

- Put together at least two words, such as “go bye-bye” to express a need or desire, without imitating or repeating what has been heard
- Show interest in the play of other children
- Look for familiar objects when they are out of sight

Then, a complete evaluation for an autism spectrum disorder should be completed.