8-12 months:

### Cognition
- Play 2-3 minutes with a single toy? 
- Search for hidden sounds?
- Begin to use objects correctly? (e.g. drinking from cup, brushing hair, dialing phone, listening to receiver)
- Enjoy imitating people in play?
- Explore objects in many different ways? (e.g. shaking, banging, throwing, dropping)

### Speech and Language
#### Receptive Language
- Enjoy games like “Peek-a-boo” and “Pat-a-cake”?
- Turn his/her head and/or body and look in direction of sounds?
- Listen to the speech of others?
- Recognize words for common items like “bottle,” “ball,” “shoe” or “book?”
- Respond to familiar requests? Responding to requests without needing cues (e.g. “Give” with open palm held out, “Come here” while holding arms when you’re about to pick them up, or “Give kiss” as you lean your cheek in close to the child.)

#### Expressive Language
- Babbling consonant chains? (e.g. “puh-puh-puh,” “bi-bi-bi” or “oy” as in boy)
- Double consonants (e.g. “ba-ba”) or single consonant (e.g. “ba”)?
- Use speech or non-crying sounds to gain and keep attention?
- Imitate different speech sounds?
- Produce one or two words (e.g. “hi” “dog” “dada” “mama”) around 1st birthday? Although sounds may not be perfectly clear

### Occupational Therapy
- Bang toys together at the middle of the body?
- Put objects into a container?
- Remove pegs from pegboard/puzzle pieces from a puzzle?
- Rake small items from a surface?
- Finger-feed?

### Physical Therapy
- Move into and out of sitting without help?
- Crawl – first on belly, then all 4s?
- Pull to standing at furniture?
- Walk – holding onto furniture; may take a few independent steps?
### Social and Emotional

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- Actively play peek-a-boo?
- Show anxiety when separating from a parent?
- Show preferences in their familiar environment?
- Begin to test parental reaction?

**NOTE:** This information represents, on average, the age by which most children will accomplish the listed milestones. Children do not typically master all items until they reach the upper end of that age range. Just because your child has not yet accomplished a skill within an age range does not mean they have a disorder. However, if you have answered ‘no’ to the majority of items within an age range, or continue to have concerns, it is recommended that a thorough assessment of abilities be completed. For more information about an evaluation of your child, please contact The Bell Center's Executive Director, Jeannie Colquett at 870-0081 or jcolquett@thebellcenter.org.