

MaineLEND Presents

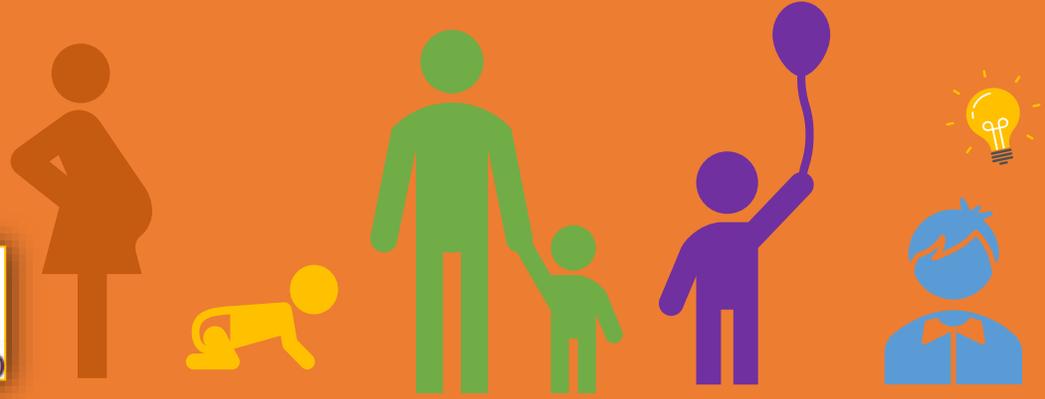
Learn the Signs Act Early

with Trainees and Graduate Students

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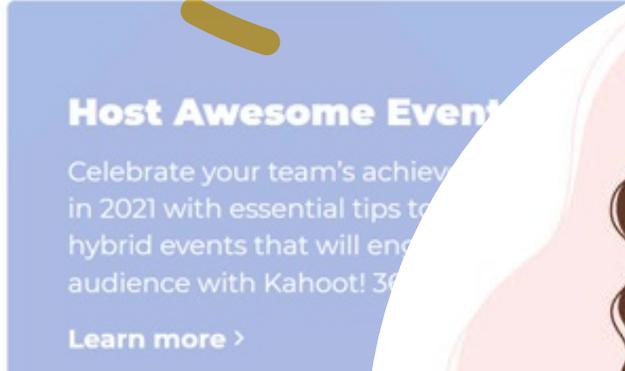
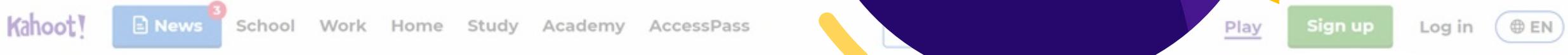
January 13, 2022



What do we know?



This activity is optional and aims to assess what the group knows about a child's milestones or development from birth-age 5.



- Go to: www.kahoot.com/
- Click **Play**
- Enter **Game PIN (#####)**
- Enter your Name, Nickname, or Initials



Parents are the Experts.

But experts need help sometimes too.

Maine has the **highest rate** in the nation for students receiving **special education services**.

71% of Maine children **under the age of 6** live in families with all available **parents in the workforce**.

Maine has a **low rate** of providing **early intervention services** for children 0-5 years old.

Milestones Matter

Learn the Signs. Act Early.

From birth to age 5, children reach critical milestones in areas including play, learning, speech, behavior, and movement. The CDC's "Learn the Signs, Act Early" Milestone Tracker can help families, early childhood educators, and healthcare workers track a child's development and act early if they have a concern.



Examples of Developmental Milestones

- Smiling
- Babbling/talking
- Movement (reaching, crawling, walking)
- Learning (looking, interacting)
- Toileting
- Wondering about others?



[Check out the CDC website!](#)



What is a milestone?

How a child plays, learns, speaks, acts, and moves helps us understand how they are developing. A developmental milestone is something that most children should be able to do by a certain age. For example, by 2 months, we would expect a baby to be able to hold their head up, pay attention to faces, and turn their head toward sounds.





Who is Affected?

Research suggests that 1 in 6 children in the United States aged 3-17 have one or more developmental disabilities including autism spectrum disorder, ADHD, cerebral palsy, hearing loss, intellectual disability, learning disability, or other developmental delays.



Accessing Support can be Challenging

An estimated 40% of 3 and 4 year olds who would qualify for high-quality pre-school programs and other supports are currently not enrolled or not accessing these supports.

65.6% Maine children enrolled in Head Start have **experienced homeless** compared to **15.8% of the national average.**



Early Intervention services can **change a child's development path** and **improve outcomes** for children, families, and communities.



Early intervention is the key to success!

When developmental challenges are identified early (particularly before preschool), children can access a broad range of services including health support, social services, parent training, and counseling. Access to these programs significantly improves later success in school.

Families benefit from early intervention by being able to better **meet their children's needs** from an early age and **throughout their lives.**





What is Early Intervention?

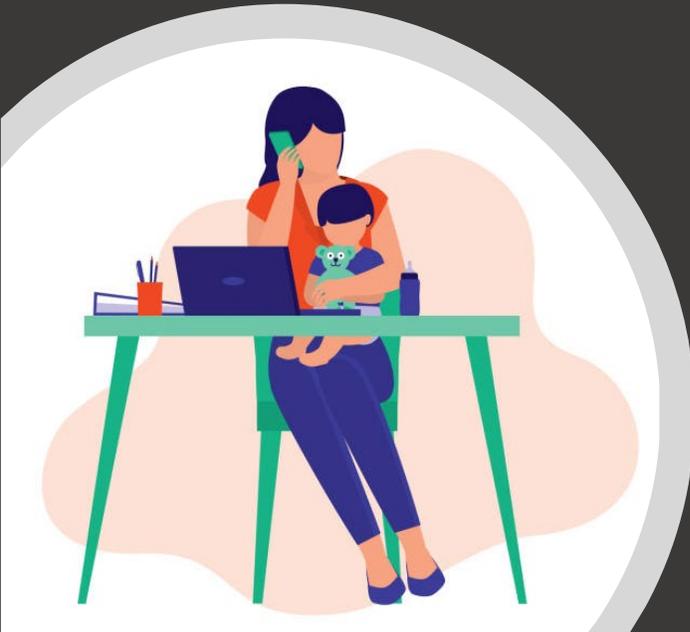
- Is the term used to describe the **services and supports that are available to babies and young children** with developmental delays and disabilities and their families.
- May include speech therapy, physical therapy, and other types of **services based on the needs of the child and family.**



- Programs are **available in every US state and territory.** These publicly funded programs **provide services for free or at reduced cost** for any child who is eligible.

Why does it matter?

- The **first five years** are a critical time in a child's life – they are **growing and learning at a rapid rate.**
- Children with disabilities who do not receive early intervention quickly **fall behind** same-aged peers and it may be **difficult for them to catch up.**
- **Early intervention** can have a significant **impact** on a child's **ability to learn new skills** and **overcome challenges** and can increase **success in school and life.**



Interdisciplinary Care is Key

- Who would you add to a care team?

- How might they assist in a child's development?

How can we help?

- Learn about developmental milestones and how to track them.
- Talk to parents about the importance of tracking their child's milestones.
- Be prepared to have a conversation with a parent if you discover that a child is not meeting a milestone.

- Parent(s)
- Caregiver(s)
- Guardian(s)
- Teacher
- Cultural Broker
- Case Manager
- Clinician
- Therapist
- Direct Support Staff
- Pediatrician
- Physical Therapist
- Special Education Specialist
- Occupational Therapist
- Pediatric Developmental Psychologist
- Speech & Language Pathologist
- Audiologist
- Social Worker

Early Interventions can include supports from



Collaboration is Key

Parents💡 Educators💡 Health Care Providers

A Family-Centered Approach

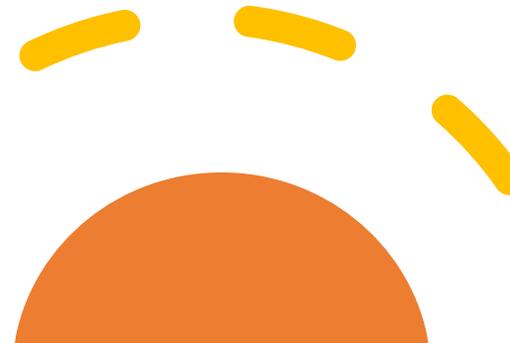


- What is the **parent's** concern?
- How can we **highlight the strengths** of the child?
- **How are we communicating?**
Are we using welcoming language or jargon?
- Have we **established a relationship with the family?** Do they trust us?
- **Have we followed up** to make sure that the family can access resources?



It Takes a Village

- Children benefit when members of their community are on the same page and looking out for their best interests.
- What is one way you might implement this information now? In your future career?



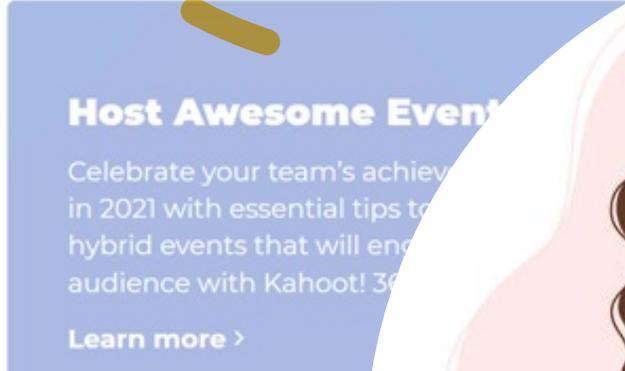
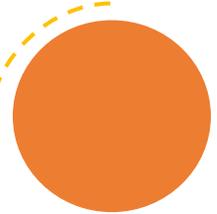
What have we learned?



This activity is optional and aims to assess what the group has learned about a child's milestones or development from birth-age 5.



Q&A ?



- Go to: www.kahoot.com/
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FREE Materials

www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/parents/index.html

To translate "Learn the Signs. Act Early." materials, email ActEarly@cdc.gov with language request

References

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Help your child grow and thrive



Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play

Download CDC's free **Milestone Tracker** app



Track & Share Milestones

Get Tips & Activities

Learn When to Act Early

Learn more at [cdc.gov/MilestoneTracker](https://www.cdc.gov/MilestoneTracker)



Milestone Tracker App

Parents and early childhood educators can track children's milestones using the CDC's free Milestone Tracker app. Parents can then share progress and any concerns with their health care provider during well-child visits.

www.cdc.gov/MilestoneTracker



CDC Milestone Tracker App

FREE App : Input as much or as little information as you'd like to get feedback on a child's development. App details early development milestones, baselines and areas for concern for families and caregivers alike.

Student Feedback Time

<https://redcap.link/LTSAEFeedback>

Learn the Signs Act Early Feedback

What is your relation with a child/ren with neurodevelopmental disabilities: (select all that apply)

What was the most helpful or useful part of the training?

What suggestions do you have to make the training more useful?

Anything else you would like us to know?

Submit

thank you!

We want to hear from you!

