

Autism Symptoms Checklist for Toddlers

Parent Questions:	Yes	No
Does your child enjoy being thrown in the air, bounced on your knee, or playing pop goes the weasel etc.?		
Does your child seem interested in other children and interested in other in interacting with others?		
Does your child enjoy playing at the park, swinging, going down slides, and/or climbing on playground equipment?		
Does your child enjoy playing peek-a-boo, being tickled, or chased?		
Does your child ever pretend play or imitate parent behaviors (ie, Kitchen play, playing with toy lawn mower, playing with toy vacuum)?		
Does your child ever use gestures to get something, like pointing?		
Can your child use small toys appropriately during play (ie, stacking blocks, making airplane sounds while flying it through air) without just putting them in the mouth or engaging in what appears to be sensory play (only flicking the propeller on the plane while staring at it)?		
Does your child ever attempt to get you to play with them, such as pulling your hand and bringing you over to a toy?		
When you smile at your child, does he/she smile back at you?		
Based on Observations:		
Will the child make eye contact with you?		
Is the child able to have shared attention on the same object with you when showing him/her the object?		
Get child's attention, then point across the room at an interesting object and say "Look over there! There's a (toy name)!" Look at the child's face. Does the child follow your finger to the object you are pointing at? (make sure actually looked at the object)		
Get child's attention, say "I'm going to get you!" run over and tickle them. Do a couple of times. Does the child seem interested in playing? Does he/she run away or laugh?		
Get child's attention, then give them a toy cup and teapot and say "Can you pour a cup of tea?" Imitate pouring and drinking the tea. Does child pretend to pour out the tea, drink it etc.? (pretending in some other way would also mean yes)		
Show the child an object and then hide it while he/she is watching. Then say, "Where's the _____?" Do they try to look for it?		
Can the child stack blocks on top of each other? (If so, how many?_____)		
*Indicates critical question most indicative if autistic characteristics		
This form has been modified from: Baron-Cohen, S. et. Al., "Can autism be detected at 18 months? The needle, the haystack, and the CHAT," The British Journal of Psychiatry, 161, pp. 839-843, 1992.		