

# A Healthy Beginning for Young California Kids: Universal Developmental & Behavioral Screenings

Identifying concerns and intervening early **boosts child success** and **reduces health and education system costs**



Nearly **85%** of brain development happens in the first three years of life

Infants and toddlers rapidly grow and gain skills in many areas simultaneously:



gross & fine motor



cognitive & problem-solving



social & emotional

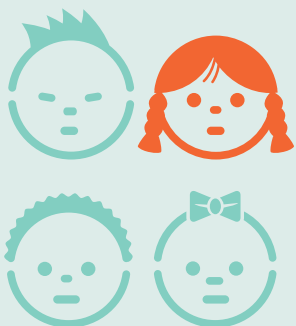


speech & language

Pediatricians recommend all children be screened routinely between birth and age three



Fewer than **1 in 3** young children in California receive timely developmental screenings



**1 in 4 CA kids** under age 6 are at moderate- or high-risk for developmental, behavioral, or social delays, but

**California**

**can do better!**

CA ranks **30<sup>th</sup>**

in the nation on the rate of infant & toddler developmental screenings

**2 in 5 CA parents**

with children under age 6 report having concerns about their child's physical, behavioral, or social development



**Routine screenings** of children's development during a health care visit help guide referrals to the services children need, resulting in cost-effective care and better outcomes for kids

