

# Hearing

## If Your Child...

- ▲ Does not turn to face the source of strange sounds or voices by six months of age.
- ▲ Has frequent ear aches or runny ears.
- ▲ Talks in a very loud or very soft voice.
- ▲ Turns the same ear toward a sound he/she wishes to hear.

# Moving

## If Your Child...

- ▲ Is unable to sit up without support by age 1.
- ▲ Cannot walk without help by age 2.
- ▲ Does not walk up and down steps by age 3.
- ▲ Is unable to balance on one foot for a short time by age 4.
- ▲ Cannot throw a ball overhand and catch a large ball bounced to him/her by age 5.

## WHO CAN HELP?

If you suspect that your child may have special needs, talk with your family doctor, your public health nurse, or other professionals in the field. Don't hesitate to call their attention to and ask their advice about what you feel may be unusual behavior or a possible physical problem of your child.

No matter where you live, there are parent organizations and government agencies which will assist you if your child has special needs. People working in your local health department and your public schools can often put you in touch with those who are best able to help you.

REMEMBER, the earlier you recognize your child's special needs and seek professional help, the greater the possibility that your child can be helped to overcome a problem.

### Write or Call Your

### LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

- |                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Hutsonville No. 1    | • Jasper County No. 1   |
| • Robinson No. 2       | • Clay City No. 10      |
| • Palestine No. 3      | • North Clay No. 25     |
| • Oblong No. 4         | • Flora No. 35          |
| • Red Hill No. 10      | • Richland County No. 1 |
| • Lawrenceville No. 20 |                         |

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# PARENTS:

## Do You Know The Early Warning Signs?

Of Children With Special Needs

**Please take a minute  
to read these**

## **EARLY WARNING SIGNS.**

**You may find your child  
has a special need!**

Many children are born with or may acquire physical and/or mental conditions which handicap their normal growth and development. Fortunately, many of these conditions can be helped or completely corrected if parents recognize the problem early and seek help. Your failure to recognize and deal with a problem early may result in an unnecessary life-long handicap.

The following EARLY WARNING SIGNS are some of the more common indications that a problem may exist. If for any reason you suspect that your child may have special needs, we urge you to seek help immediately---don't wait until your child enters school before you begin to deal with the problem.

## *Seeing*

### **If Your Child...**

- ▲ Is often unable to locate and pick up small objects within reach.
- ▲ Frequently rubs eyes or complains that eyes hurt.
- ▲ Has reddened, watering or encrusted eyelids.
- ▲ Holds head in a strained or awkward position (tilts head to either side --- thrusts head forward or backward) when trying to look at a particular person or object.
- ▲ Sometimes or always crosses one or both eyes.

## *Talking*

### **If Your Child...**

- ▲ Cannot say "Mama" and Dada" by age 1
- ▲ Cannot say the names of a few toys and people by age 2
- ▲ Cannot repeat common rhymes or T.V. jingles by age 3
- ▲ Is not talking in short sentences by age 4
- ▲ Is not understood by people outside the family by age 5

## *Playing*

### **If Your Child...**

- ▲ Does not play games such as peek-a-boo, patty cake, waving bye-bye by age 1.
- ▲ Does not imitate parents doing routine household chores by age 2 or 3.
- ▲ Does not enjoy playing alone with toys, pots and pans, sand, etc. by age 3
- ▲ Does not play group games such as hide-and-seek, tag-ball, etc. with other children by age 4.
- ▲ Does not share and take turns by age 5.

## *Thinking*

### **If Your Child...**

- ▲ Does not react to his/her own name when called by age 1.
- ▲ Is unable to identify hair, eyes, ears, nose and mouth by pointing to them by age 2.
- ▲ Does not understand simple stories told or read by age 3.
- ▲ Does not give reasonable answers to such questions as "What do you do when you are sleepy?" or "What do you do when you are hungry?" by age 4.
- ▲ Does not seem to understand the meanings of the words "today," "tomorrow," "yesterday" by age 5.