

Importance of Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ)

- The early years of child development are critical to success later in life.
- Children grow and learn more during the first 5 years than any other 5 year period in their life.
- Without proper development in these areas, many children will lack basic skills and will enter Kindergarten unprepared for school challenges
- Assessments of infants and young children should be done on a regular and periodic basis because of the rapid developmental changes in the early years
- Parents and caregivers need to be educated about the importance of their child's early brain development in order to help children be able to succeed in school and in life.
- 5 key developmental skills addressed - Communication, gross motor, fine motor, problem solving, and personal-social
- Ages and Stages provides early and accurate identification of developmental delays

What is the advantage of a parent doing Ages and Stages?

- Uses the knowledge and understanding of parents to monitor the development of their children
- Allows parent to play with their child while observing different developmental stages
- Involves parents in the screening process
- Allows for screening to be done in the comfort of parent's own home. Help filling out ASQs is given upon parent request.
- Monitors children's development over time

Is Ages and Stages a reliable program?

- Studies have been conducted over the past 15 years on the validity and reliability of the program.
- ASQ questions were developed using a variety of sources, including standardized developmental tests, non-standardized tests focused on early development, textbooks, and other literature containing information about early developmental milestones.
- Diane Brinker, Ph.D., Jane Squires, M.A., at the University of Oregon developed the program.
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