

Here are some things a child with normal hearing should be able to do.

0-3 months

- Jumps at a sudden, loud noise
- Calms down when you speak

3-6 months

- Turns head or moves eyes to find your voice
- Plays at making noises and sounds

6-10 months

- Reacts to hearing his/her name
- Begins to understand easy words like “no” and “bye-bye”

10-15 months

- Repeats simple words and sounds you make
- Uses two to three words other than “ma-ma” and “da-da”

18 months

- Follows simple spoken directions
- Uses seven or more true words

24 months

- Understands when you call from another room
- Points to body parts when asked

Follow-up appointment: _____

Provider: _____

Phone number: _____

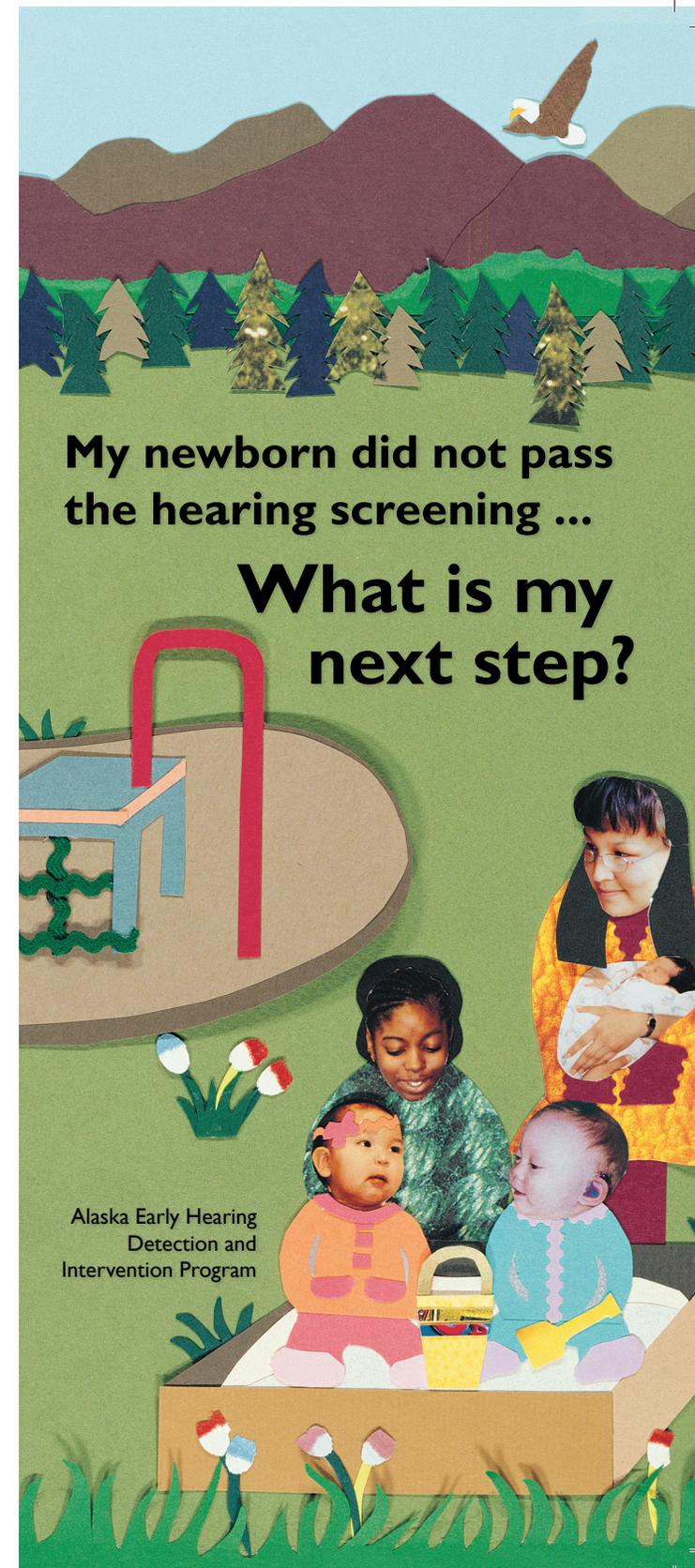
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May, 2012

This publication was produced by the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services. It was printed at a cost of \$.15 per copy in Anchorage, Alaska. This cost block is required by AS 44.99.210.



**My newborn did not pass
the hearing screening ...**

**What is my
next step?**

Alaska Early Hearing
Detection and
Intervention Program

What does it mean if my baby does not pass the screening?

If your baby did not pass his/her last screening before leaving the hospital, your baby will need to return for a follow-up screening within two weeks or as soon as possible.

If your baby does not pass this screening, he/she will need to see an audiologist (hearing specialist) for complete testing. The audiologist will find out if there is a hearing loss, and if so, what kind. Your baby should see the audiologist before three months of age.

Hearing screening and testing steps

1. Initial screening

Usually completed before your baby leaves the hospital.

2. Follow-up screening

If your baby does not pass the initial screening, he/she will have a follow-up screening within two weeks.

3. Audiology testing

If your baby does not pass the follow-up screening, an appointment with a pediatric audiologist is needed. You may have been referred to audiology when your baby was last screened at the hospital, or your healthcare provider may suggest an audiologist. Schedule the appointment as soon as possible. The appointment should be made within one month of follow-up screening.

The audiologist will complete an Auditory Brainstem Response (ABR) test. This test measures how well your baby's ears and nerves respond to sounds. Most health insurance plans and Medicaid help pay for the hearing test.

Be sure to discuss your baby's screening or testing with your baby's healthcare provider.

It is never too late to have your baby's hearing tested.

Why should I have my baby's hearing tested?

It is important that you follow through with any recommendations made by your hospital staff, audiologist, and/or other healthcare provider and have your baby tested for hearing loss as soon as possible – do not delay more than one month. If hearing loss is detected your baby can get help.



If you start intervention before your baby is 6 months old, he/she may learn language close to, or at the same rate as, babies who do not have hearing loss.

How will my baby's hearing be tested?

An ABR test is done while your baby is sleeping. A special sticker is placed on the forehead, and sounds are played into each ear through a small microphone. The responses of your baby's ears and nerves are detected and recorded into a computer. The audiologist will find the softest sound to which your baby responds.



Audiology testing will find out for sure if there is a hearing loss, and if so what kind of a hearing loss it is. The audiologist will also look at exactly how loud different sounds need to be in order for the baby to hear them. Your baby should see the audiologist before three months of age.