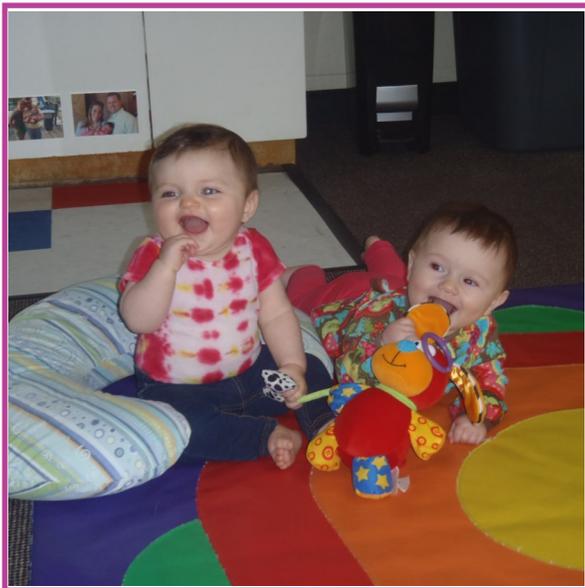


# Developmental Snapshot

## 4 to 8 Months



Ryan loves to bounce on your lap so you will play horsie with him while he giggles. He also smiles a lot if another person around his does a silly dance or makes funny faces at him. When other children are near him he often reaches for them and is just starting to pull himself along on the floor as he is trying to crawl. Additionally, Ryan is using his hands much more at meal time as he is now able to pick up large pieces of food and put them in his mouth.

As soon as Riley sees you coming towards her she puts out her arms and smiles! She feels most comfortable in your arms when there is someone new around that she is unfamiliar with. Riley enjoys trying new foods, but will tell you she doesn't like something by wrinkling her face. Riley is very focused with her play, if she has a squeeze toy, she will squeeze it over and over again to hear it squeak, paying little attention to other children who maybe around her. Riley is having fun surprising herself as she is now able to roll back and forth from her back to her stomach.

## Try this....

- Continue talking to them about everything. Specifically start telling your infant what is going to come next. This helps the youngest child learn they can depend on you to know what is going to happen.
- Introduce your child to basic emotions, such as sad and happy; sing songs about them and make faces about them. This communicates to children that there are many emotions we all have and its okay to experience them.
- Ensure your child has play materials that do things; books that have pages they can turn, toys they can push, shake, or make noises with, or balls they can hold onto or squeeze.
- Give your child lots of opportunities to move! Encourage them to hold materials of different textures; ensure they have plenty of floor time where they can roll over and stretch.