

Dear Parents,

Your baby's development is very important to us here in the Chronic Complex Pediatric Center, which is why we are pleased to introduce a new assessment tool complete with resources to help your baby reach major developmental milestones from birth to 3 years old. Each chapter in our "Advance My Baby" guide is based on a specific age group (example: 3-5 months old) and breaks down your baby's development into 6 different categories within each age group:

1. Gross Motor
2. Fine Motor
3. Cognitive
4. Language
5. Self-Care
6. Emotional/Social

The BEST part about this guide is that you simply fill out an online assessment questionnaire about your baby and then you are given a results sheet that tells you which developmental age group your baby falls into under each category. The results sheet will direct you to the exact pages in this guide where you should begin in order to advance your baby to the next level. It's just that easy!

To begin, follow these steps to complete an assessment questionnaire:

- Go online to www.advancemybaby.com
- Click on "Assessment"
- Create a new account with your name, email and password
*you must have a valid email address because this is where the assessment results are sent
- Click "Start a New Account"
- Click "Start a New Assessment"
- Write your child's name and date of birth
*if your baby was born more than one month prematurely, please enter your baby's DUE DATE instead of their actual date of birth
- Answer the questions provided (be prepared to answer 80+ questions as this assessment is very thorough). Be HONEST – some of the questions are there even though your baby is not expected to have those skills yet
- Results will be emailed to you immediately. See the sample result sheet on the next page.

Once you have your baby's results, you are all set to begin working to help him/her advance and master necessary skills. This guide has everything you'll need to do this: activities, playtime strategies, check-lists of skills, and even a few helpful informational blurbs. Everything you need to know about your baby's development is included in this guide. This guide is not meant to replace necessary therapies, but to complement them and give you something to work on daily at home. Remember that you, the parent, are the BEST advocate for your baby.

If you have any questions about this assessment tool or your baby's development, please feel free to contact Lisa Andrew, Child Life Specialist, at 813-554-8155 ext. 8 or email lisa.andrew@baycare.org.

We hope you enjoy your new "Advance My Baby" guide!