







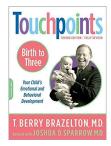




#### My Inspiration - T. Barry Brazelton, MD

His advice for frazzled new parents: "I'd like for them to learn that they can understand that baby by watching the baby's behavior."

- "Touchpoints" are predictable periods of regression and disorganization that occur before bursts in a child's development.
- Development is characterized by regressions, bursts, and pauses.
- Regressions in a child's behavior cause disorganization for parents



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#### **Nurture**

- To care for and to encourage the growth or development of
- Occurs when a parent or caregiver is available and able to sensitively respond to and meet the needs of their child



Available, Attuned, and Interested Parents and Caregivers

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## Nurturing Relationships are Love in Action



#### **Nurturing Relationships Builds**

- Better brains
- · Healthy attachment
- SE intelligence
- Self regulation
- Resilience



Relationships + Regulation = Resilience

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#### **Nurturing Relationships are Inborn**



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#### **Environment, Biology and Development**

**Eco-Bio-Developmental**Model of Human Health and Disease



Ecology
Becomes biology,
And together they drive development across the lifespan

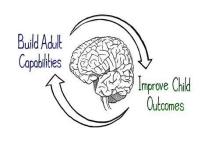
## Children live in the context of relationships



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#### Focus on the Adults who Care for Children

If we really want to achieve breakthrough outcomes for children experiencing toxic stress, then we have to transform the lives of the adults who care for them.

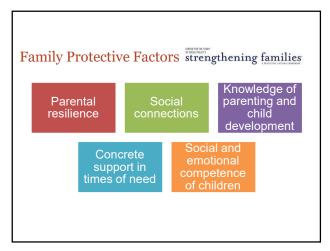


Center for the Developing Child

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## Being Trauma Responsive – Our Families' Unspoken Questions

- Are you safe? (physically, emotionally, mentally, and in our relationship)
- Can you "see" me? Do you understand me?
- Can you help me? Are you useful?
- Will you be around? For the long run? When things get tough?
- "Yeah, I've heard that before." (emotional hurt betrayal, abandonment, etc.)



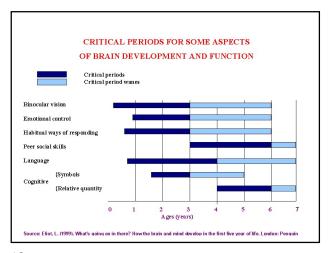
## Knowledge of parenting and child development

Seeking, acquiring and using accurate and age/stage-related information about

a. parental behaviors that lead to early secure attachments

b. the importance of

- being attuned and emotionally available to one's child
- being nurturing, responsive and reliable
- regular, predictable and consistent routines
- interactive language experiences
- providing a physically and emotionally safe environment for one's child
- providing opportunities for one's child to explore and to learn by doing
- c. appropriate developmental expectations
- d. positive discipline techniques
- e. recognizing and attending to the special needs of a child



#### **Childhood Development**

- · A process every child goes through.
- Involves learning and mastering skills like sitting, walking, talking, skipping, and tying shoes.
- Children learn these skills, called <u>developmental milestones</u>, during predictable time periods.

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#### **Domains of Development**

1) Speech and Language Development

This is the shiller shills to both understand and use let

This is the child's ability to both understand and use language

2) Gross Motor Skill Development
This is the child's ability to use large muscles

3) Fine Motor Skill Development

This is the child's ability to use small muscles, specifically their hands and fingers

4) Cognitive Development

This is the child's ability to learn and solve problems

5) Social and Emotional Development
This is the child's ability to interact with others, including helping themselves and self-control

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#### **Developmental Terms**

- Surveillance –a system to regularly and routinely check children's development
  - (involves everyone who interacts with children)
- Screening using a standard way to identify children who require help or close observation
  - (and connecting parents resources)
- Evaluation (Assessment) when a child requires help, the process of defining the needs and creating plan for the family
  - (ideally, the plan is shared with all people involved with the child)

#### **Developmental Milestones**

- A skill that a child acquires within a specific time frame
- · Milestones develop in a sequential fashion
- · Each milestone builds on the last milestone developed
- Because children usually acquire developmental milestones/skills during a specific time frame or "window", we can predict when most children will learn different skills
- https://healthychildren.org/English/ages-stages/Your-Childs-Checkups/Pages/default.aspx (General Info)
- https://healthychildren.org/English/agesstages/baby/Pages/default.aspx (Age Specific Development)

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#### **CDC Developmental Milestones App**

- Track your child's milestones from age 2 months to 5 years with CDC's easy-to-use illustrated checklists; get tips from CDC for encouraging your child's development; and find out what to do if you are ever concerned about how your child is developing.
- Photos and videos in this app illustrate each milestone and make tracking them for your child easy and fun!
- https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/milestones-app.html





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#### **Language Delay**

- One in 10 kids
- Many problems persist throughout school and adulthood
- · Behavior problems
- · Classes and enrichment work for most
- Want to detect and treat early (by 2 3 years)



#### **Language Delay**

- Receptive Delay
- Expressive Delay
- Slow talkers
- · Slow learners



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#### Language Milestones 6 months – 1 year

- Responds to own name
- Uses wide range of sounds
- Makes sounds like "ba-ba, ma-ma, or da-da"
- · Shakes head "no"
- Understands simple words or commands



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### Language Milestones 1 Year to 18 months

- Uses simple words
- Asks for food or drink with words
- Points to desired objects
- Point to correct picture when asked, "show me doggie"



## Language Milestones 18 months to 2 years

- · Follows simple directions
- Uses at least 10 words
- Follows 2 part directions
- · Uses 2 word sentences
- Enjoys singing and songs



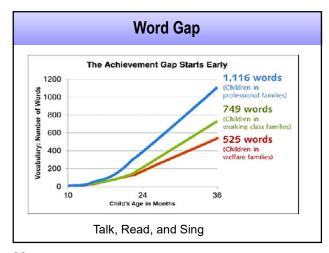
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#### Language Milestones 2 Years to 3 years

- Talks in 2-3 word sentences
- Talks clearly most of the time (50%)
- Understands prepositions in, on, under, beside
- Uses pronouns I, he, she, you



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#### Parent-ese

- Parentese is fully grammatical speech that involves real words, elongated vowels and exaggerated tones of voice.
   Spoken directly to the child, it sounds happy and engaged, and helps infants tune in socially to their parents and respond, even if only through babbling.
- Parent surveys estimated that the children's 18-month vocabulary averaged around 100 words among children of coached families, compared to 60 words among children in the control group.

Parent coaching increases conversational turns and advances infant language development.

Naja Ferjan Ramírez, Sarah Roseberry Lytle, Patricia K. Kuhl. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences Feb 2020, 117 (7) 3484-3491; DOI: 10.1073/pnas.1921653117

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#### **Parent Education and Coaching**

- Importance of parent-child engagement, nurturing relationships, opportunities for free-play and exploration
  - Be face-to-face with a responsive adult
  - Use back-and-forth, or turn-taking, interactions
  - Respond based on the behavior or action of the child
  - Use "sharing attention"
  - The use of social cues such as pointing and eye gaze, to communicate with young children even before they can speak
  - Power of play and child-directed play
  - Adjusted to meet individual temperament, ability, and needs of the child
- · Caregiver support and stress reduction

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#### Why Screen?

- · It catches problems earlier
- · Allows for early treatment
- · It is effective and efficient
- Critical period of rapid growth of the body and brain
- Most children who would benefit from early intervention are not identified until after they start school



#### **Current state of screening**

- Developmental delays, learning disorders, and behavioral and socialemotional problems are estimated to affect 1 in every 6 children
- Only 20% to 30% of these children are identified as needing help before school begins



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#### **The Case for Early Treatment**

#### Early treatment =

- ↑ graduate from high school
- $\uparrow \ \ \text{hold jobs}$
- ↑ live independently
- ↓ teen pregnancy
- $\downarrow \ \, \text{delinquency}$
- ↓ violent crime

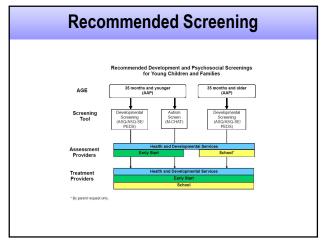


\$30,000 to \$100,000 savings per child

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#### **Recommended Screening**

- The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends developmental and behavioral screening for all children during regular well-child visits at these ages:
  - -9 months
  - 18 months
  - 30 months
- In addition, AAP recommends that all children be screened specifically for <u>autism spectrum disorder (ASD)</u> during regular well-child visits at:
  - 18 months
  - 24 months



#### An Example of a Screening Tool

- The Ages & Stages Questionnaires® (ASQ)-3
- Composed of 19 questionnaires
  - designed to be completed by parents or primary caregivers.
  - Questionnaire intervals include 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, 42, 48, 54, and 60 months of age.
- Each questionnaire contains 30 developmental items

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#### Domains of Development in the ASQ-3

- 1. Communication = Speech and Language Development
- 2. Gross Motor Skill Development
- 3. Fine Motor Skill Development
- 4. Problem Solving = Cognitive Development
- 5. Personal-Social

ASQ-SE2 for Social and Emotional Development

#### **ASQ-3 Basics**

- Developmental Domains and an Overall section addresses general parental concerns
- The reading level from 4th to 6th grade
- · Illustrations are provided when possible
- Parents check
  - ves
  - sometimes
  - not yet
- · Program staff
  - convert to a point value
  - total these values, and
  - compare the total score to established screening cutoff points.

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#### **Easter Seals and ASQ-3 Online Free**

- Easterseals, through generous support from Comcast NBC Universal, is providing parents with free access to this online screening tool
- https://www.easterseals.com/mtffc/
- https://asqonline.com/family/993-screening-family-access-open-asq-3-english/start

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#### Social Emotional Development Screening Tool ASQ-SE2

- ASQ:SE-2 is designed to exclusively screen for social and emotional behaviors
- · ASQ-3 includes personal-social domain,
  - Questions mostly assess whether a child can meet her own selfhelp needs in an age-appropriate manner—like getting herself dressed or knowing her and other people's name.
- In contrast, ASQ:SE-2 addresses the broad and complex nature of the social-emotional domain of development. The questionnaires include items in each of seven key behavioral areas: self-regulation, compliance, social-communication, adaptive functioning, autonomy, affect, and interaction with people.

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An Example of a Screening Too	An Exam	ple of	f a Sc	reening	ooT p
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- The Ages & Stages Questionnaires® (ASQ-SE2)
- · Composed of 9 questionnaires
  - designed to be completed by parents or primary caregivers.
  - Questionnaire intervals 2, 6, 12, 18, 24, 30, 36, 48, and 60 months of age.
- Each questionnaire contains 30 developmental items
- The raw score is compared to cutoff points, which show whether the child may need further assessment, should be monitored and rescreened, or is doing well.

#### **ASQ-SE2 Basics**

- The reading level from 4th to 6th grade
- · Illustrations are provided when possible
- Parents check
  - yes
  - sometimes
  - not yet
- Program staff
  - convert to a point value
  - total these values, and
  - compare the total score to established screening cutoff points.

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#### **Meet The Family Where They Are**

- Tailor Your Communication to:
  - Level of readiness to hear and act on information
  - Emotional state
  - Educational level
  - Cultural beliefs
  - Family resources (social support, time, transportation, stress level)
  - Ability to utilize the system

#### What is Early Intervention?

- Is the term used to describe services and support that help babies and toddlers (from birth to 3 years of age in most states/territories) with developmental delays or disabilities and their families.
- May include speech therapy, physical therapy, and other types of services based on the needs of the child and family.
- Can have a significant impact on a child's ability to learn new skills and increase their success in school and life.
- Programs are available in every state and territory. These services are provided for free or at a reduced cost for any child who meets the state's criteria for developmental delay.

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#### **Doctor's Office**

- When you call your child's doctor's office, say, "I
  would like to make an appointment to see the
  doctor because I am concerned about my child's
  development."
- Be ready to share your specific concerns about your child when you call. If you wrote down notes about your concerns, keep them. Your notes will be helpful during your visit with the doctor.

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#### **Government Mandated Programs**

- · Early Start (Regional Center)
- School system programs
- · Regional Center for Older Kids
- · California Children's Services
- · Exceptional Family Resource Center
  - For the more severe children (1 2%)
  - · Families need help navigating



#### **Early Start/Regional Center**

- · Most children up to 2 years 11 months
- · Parent referral
- · With disability and some with risk factors
- · Assess all areas of development
- Provide speech, developmental, physical therapy, occupational therapy, some mental health
- · IDEA Part C
- https://www.dds.ca.gov/services/early-start/familyresource-center/regional-center-early-start-intakeand-family-resource-centers/

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#### **Early Intervention Services Office**

- When you call your state's early intervention services office (if your child is not yet 3 years old), say,
  - "I am concerned about my child's development and would like to request an evaluation. Can you help me or let me speak with someone who can?"
- Be ready to share your specific concerns about your child. You will also be asked for some general information about yourself and your child (your name, your child's name and age, where you live, and more).
- Write down who you speak to, the date, and what was said; you might need this information later.

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#### **School Districts**

- · Take all ages
- · Will treat deaf and blind under 3 years
- Otherwise, 3 5 years, parent referral
- · Must have more than one area of disability
- · Must be severely disabled to qualify
- · Will assess only in suspected area of disability
- · Treatment varies from district to district
- IDEA Part B

#### **School Districts**

- When you call your local elementary school or board of education (if your child is 3 or older), say,
  - "I am concerned about my child's development and would like to talk with someone about having my child evaluated. Can you help me or let me speak with someone who can?"
- Be ready to share your specific concerns about your child. You will also be asked for some general information about yourself and your child (your name, your child's name and age, where you live, and more).
- Write down who you speak to, the date, and what was said; you might need this information later.

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#### California Children's Services

- Specific diagnoses (cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, epilepsy, Down's syndrome, etc.)
- Provides diagnostic and treatment services, medical case management, and physical and occupational therapy services to children < 21</li>
- · Physician referral
- · Sliding scale for payment

https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/ccs/Pages/default\_aspx

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#### **Exceptional Family Resource Center (EFRC)**

- Exceptional Family Resource Centers provide peer-to-peer support for the child's family and may offer activities, classes, community resources and transition assistance for families.
- To locate the nearest EFRC, families can search online <a href="https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/ccs/Pages/default.aspx">https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/ccs/Pages/default.aspx</a> or leave a message with the Babyline at 800-515-2229 (BABY).

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#### In California, First 5 and Help Me Grow

- Creating a network of local partners dedicated to developmental monitoring and early intervention.
- Educating and training local medical providers and early childhood educators on best practices around developmental screening and referral.
- Providing tools and resources to support screening and referral.
- Collecting and reporting data around developmental screening outcomes

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#### While You Wait

- Unfortunately, families may have to wait many weeks or sometimes months before they are able to get an appointment to see a specialist or start intervention services for their child's developmental problem.
- This can be a frustrating time for parents who want answers and help now.
- If you find yourself in this situation, know that there are some simple things you can do today and everyday to help your child's development.

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#### What You Can Do

- Support parents in their role as caretakers
- Show by example how to create secure attachments and a healthy emotional environment
- Foster play as an opportunity to learn to think and solve problems
- Use screening as an educational tool to show parents how important they are in a child's development
- Help parents put developmental activities into their daily routines

#### No's No's for Adults

- · DON'T compare to other children or siblings
- · DON'T place blame
- · DON'T give labels
- · DON'T assume treatment is too expensive
- DON'T "wait and see" if the child outgrows the problem

#### **Social Emotional Development**

- Includes the child's experience, expression, and management of emotions and the ability to establish positive and rewarding relationships with others (Cohen and others 2005)
- · Include the ability
  - to identify and understand one's own feelings,
  - to accurately read and comprehend emotional states in others,
  - to manage strong emotions and their expression in a constructive manner,
  - to regulate one's own behavior,
  - to develop empathy for others, and to establish and maintain relationships.
- (National Scientific Council on the Developing Child 2004, 2)

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#### **Social Emotional Development**

- · Infants experience, express, and perceive emotions.
- In learning to recognize, label, manage, and communicate their emotions and to
  perceive and attempt to understand the emotions of others, children build skills
  that connect them with family, peers, teachers, and the community.
- Even newborns appear to attend more to stimuli that resemble faces (Johnson and others 1991). They also prefer their mothers' voices to the voices of other women (DeCasper and Fifer 1980). Through nurturance, adults support the infants' earliest experiences of emotion regulation (Bronson 2000a; Thompson and Goodvin 2005).
- Responsive caregiving supports infants in beginning to regulate their emotions and to develop a sense of predictability, safety, and responsiveness in their social environments.
- Emotion and cognition are profoundly interrelated processes.
- Most learning in the early years occurs in the context of emotional supports (National Research Council and Institute of Medicine 2000).

#### **Social Emotional Development Resources**

· Zero to Three

 $\frac{https://www.zerotothree.org/early-development/social-and-\\emotional-development}{}$ 

https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/series/developing-social-emotional-skills

 Center for the Social and Emotional Development for Early Learning http://csefel.vanderbilt.edu/resources/family.html

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## When distressed, we all need someone to respond to us











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#### **Emotional Regulation**

- Babies and young children orient to parental reactions
- Babies and young children regulate their internal emotions by asking for comforting
- Parents can help the baby and young children learn to sooth itself
- Parents model how emotions are identified and coped with



#### **Emotional Regulation**

- Affect the range of emotions and nature of infant's and young children's emotional reactions
- Range of emotions permitted at home
- Range of emotions family tends toward
- Parenting style and temperament



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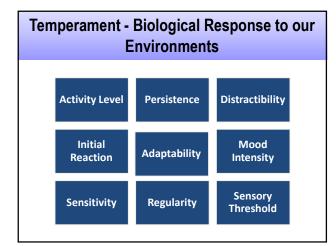
#### **Emotional Regulation Problems**

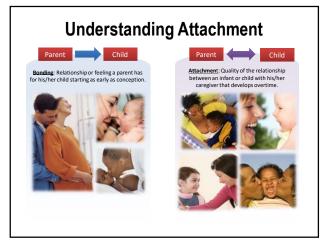
- Infancy difficulty soothing, irritable, lower activity levels, developmental delays
- 3-year-old acting out, aggressiveness, lack of compliance, withdrawing, guilty stories, decreased inhibition to unusual situations
- Difficulty developing secure social relationships, friendships, adult support



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# Stress Response Neuroscience of the Body's Stress Response Amygdala PERIAQUADUCTAL GREY Anterior Phultary Posterior Phultary Adrenal Medulla EPINEPHRINE INDIREPHRINE INDIREPHRINE Stide adapted from Thioting Developmentally: Naru-ring If elihocat in Childhood in Promoto Lifeling Health, Gamer and Sand, 2018. Used with permission.

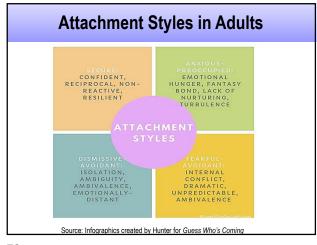






Parent Attachment Styles			
Attachment Styles			
Attachment	Caregiver Behaviours	Child Behaviours	
Securé	React quickly and positively to child's needs     Responsive to child's needs	Distressed when caregiver leaves     Happy when caregiver returns     Seek comfort from caregiver when scared or sad	
Insecure – avoidant	Unresponsive, uncaring     Dismissive	No distress when caregiver leaves     Does not acknowledge return of caregiver     Does not seek or make contact with caregiver	
Insecure – ambivalent	Responds to child inconsistently	Distress when caregiver leaves     Not comforted by return of caregiver	
Insecure - disorganized	Abusive or neglectful     Responds in frightening, or frightened ways	No attaching behaviours     Often appear dazed,     confused or apprehensive in presence of caregiver	





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#### Be the Hands



- Always: Be Bigger, Stronger, Wiser and Kind
- Whenever Possible: Follow My Child's Needs
- Whenever Needed: Take Charge

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#### Dan Siegel, MD on Attunement

"When we attune with others, we allow our own internal state to shift, to come to resonate with the inner world of another.

This resonance is at the heart of the important sense of 'feeling felt' that emerges in close relationships.

Children need attunement to feel secure and to develop well, and throughout our lives we need attunement to feel close and connected."

#### **Attunement Examples**

- A caregiver seeing a baby crying, recognizing that the baby is hungry, and then picking up the baby to feed her.
- In an adult relationship, when someone says, "I'm fine," you know he doesn't mean it, and you dig a little deeper to find out what's going on.
- · With your child
  - Knowing the feelings and motivations of your child
  - Being able to analyze your child's actions and interpret cues accurately
  - Provide a correct response that meets the child's underlying emotional needs

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### Social Skills Milestones Under 6 months

- · Social smile
- Distinguishes mother from others
- Smiles, coos or pats own image in mirror



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#### Social Skills Milestones 6 months to 1 year

- Reaches for familiar people
- Plays social games "peeka-boo" or "patty-cake"
- Pushes away unwanted things
- Drops requested objects in asker's hand



## Social Skills Milestones 1 year to 18 months

- · Gives kisses & hugs
- · Hugs doll or stuffed animal
- · Greets with "Hi"
- · Comes to parent for help
- Gets your attention by pulling on hand or clothes



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#### Social Skills Milestones 18 months – 2 years

- Says "no" when interfered with
- Usually responds to correction
- Shows sympathy to other children
- Rocks, dresses, or feeds dolls or stuffed animals
- · Building sense of self



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#### Social Skills Milestones 2 – 3 years

- Plays with other children
- "Helps" with simple tasks
- Plays role in pretend games – mom, teacher, firefighter, superhero
- Often becomes easily frustrated



#### **Autism**

- Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a developmental disability caused by differences in the brain.
- People with ASD may behave, communicate, interact, and learn in ways that are different from most other people.
- 1 child in 44
- PDD spectrum
- · Early intervention is crucial
- Social development screen + M-chat



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#### **Autism**

- · Concern with Language
  - Delayed language
  - Loses language skills after one year
  - No eye contact when makes requests
  - Singsong, robotic voice
  - Repeats without understanding
  - Does not start or sustain conversation



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#### **Autism - Concerns with social skills**

- Avoids or does not keep eye contact
- Does not respond to name by 9 months of age
- Does not show facial expressions like happy, sad, angry, and surprised by 9 months of age
- Does not play simple interactive games like pat-a-cake by 12 months
- Uses few or no gestures by 12 months (for example, does not wave goodbye)
- Does not share interests with others by 15 months of age (for example, shows you an object that they like)
- Does not point to show you something interesting by 18 months of age
- Does not notice when others are hurt or upset by 24 months of age
- Does not notice other children and join them in play by 36 months of age  $\,$
- Does not pretend to be something else, like a teacher or superhero, during play by 48 months of age
- Does not sing, dance, or act for you by 60 months of age

## Autism - Restricted or Repetitive Behaviors or Interests

- Lines up toys or other objects and gets upset when order is changed
- Repeats words or phrases over and over (called echolalia)
- · Plays with toys the same way every time
- Is focused on parts of objects (for example, wheels)
- · Gets upset by minor changes
- · Has obsessive interests
- · Must follow certain routines
- Flaps hands, rocks body, or spins self in circles
- Has unusual reactions to the way things sound, smell, taste, look, or feel



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#### **Executive Function**

- · Learning to control behavior
- · Learning to pay attention
- · Developing thinking skills
  - Attention
  - Memory
  - Attaining goals
  - Monitoring flow of information
  - Problem-solving strategies

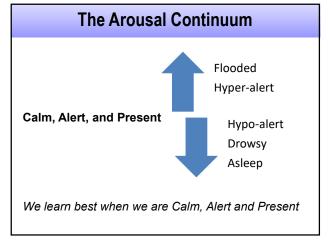


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#### **Self-Regulation**

- Take in information from our environment that is useful or tune out what is not useful
- Depends on our level of stress and arousal
- Critical to self-control and our ability to form relationships with others





#### **Self-Regulation Skills**

- Allows kids to manage their emotions, behavior and body movement when they're faced with a situation that's tough to handle
- Allows them to do that while still staying focused and paying attention

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#### **Self-Regulation Metaphor**

• Think about:



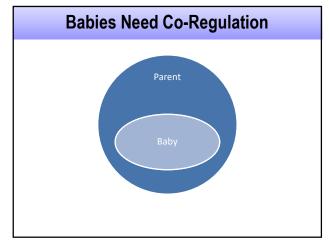
How parts work together
Engine
Accelerator
Brakes
Gas Tank
Speedometer
Gauges
Tires

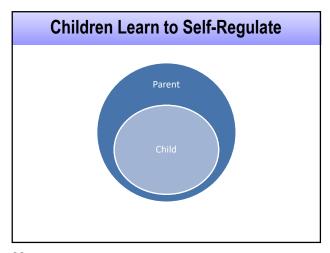
Needs to consider
Roads
Weather
Traffic

#### **Babies Need External Regulation**

- Babies cannot self-regulate
- Massive brain growth occurs in areas critical to self-regulation in the early years of life
- Primary caregiver serves as an "external brain" *regulating and stimulating* the baby
- By being regulated, the baby develops the ability to self-regulate

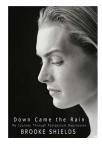
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#### **Postpartum Depression**

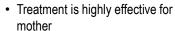
- Screening more accurate after 4 – 6 weeks of age
- Edinburgh, PH 2, PH 9
- A gateway screening for domestic violence, drug abuse



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#### **Postpartum Depression**

- Affects attachment and infant mental health
- · Delays development
- Increased health illnesses and injuries in children, later mental health and drug abuse

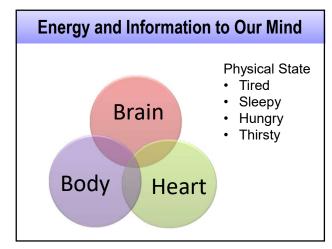


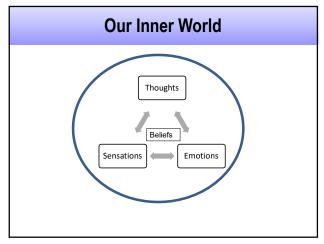
· Reverses developmental delays

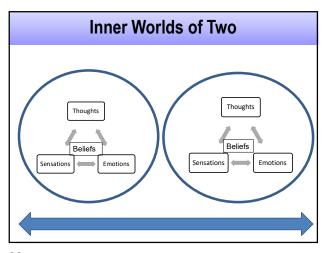


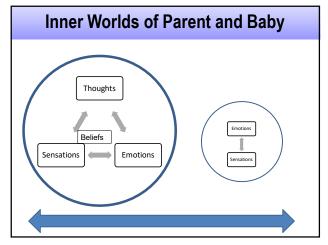
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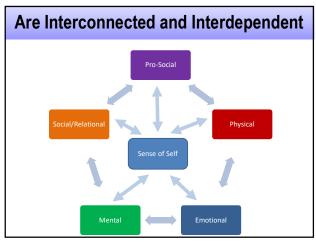
## Inter-relational/Prosocial – Feeling the needs of others Who can help and how can I make the world better? Social/Relational/ – Connection to others Who are my family and friends? Sense of Self- Who am I? Executive State Prefrontal Lobes What can I learn from this? Emotional State Limbic System Am I loved? Survival State Brain Stem Am I safe? Sensations Sensations

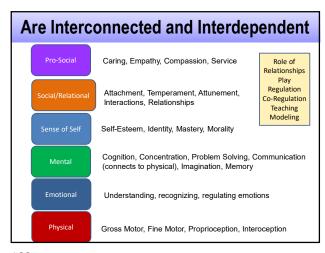


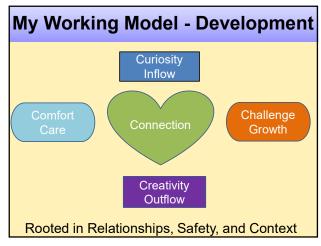












#### **Summary**

- The child is born with the capacity to learn
- The quality of the child's relationship with their caretaker nourishes that capacity
- With secure attachment, quality emotional regulation, and a supportive environment, each generation can surpass the previous one in development and learning

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