

WANT MORE INFORMATION?

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813-974-2532 or
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CARD-USF MHC 2113A
13301 Bruce B. Downs Blvd.
Tampa, Florida 33612

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA 

CARD-USF serves the following counties:
Charlotte, Collier, Desoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands,
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Florida's First Choice for Autism Support



Autism Indicators



Behavioral indicators of autism do not have a distinct onset in very young children, but instead emerge throughout the early developmental period from 0-24 months of age.

If the child does not....

By 12 mos.

- Repeatedly use simple gestures to get needs met
- Play social games
- Make repetitious babbling sounds

By 15 mos.

- Use reciprocal communication through facial expressions and gestures
- Draw the attention of another person to an interesting item or activity
- Use and understand at least three words

By 18 mos.

- Use gestures in combination with words, such as pointing and saying “Oh, look!”
- Use and understand at least 10 words
- Do simple pretend play such as moving a stuffed doggy and saying “Woof! Woof! Woof!”

By 24 mos.

- Put together at least two words, such as “go bye-bye” to express a need or desire, without imitating or repeating what has been heard
- Show interest in the play of other children
- Look for familiar objects when they are out of sight

Then, a complete evaluation for an autism spectrum disorder should be completed.