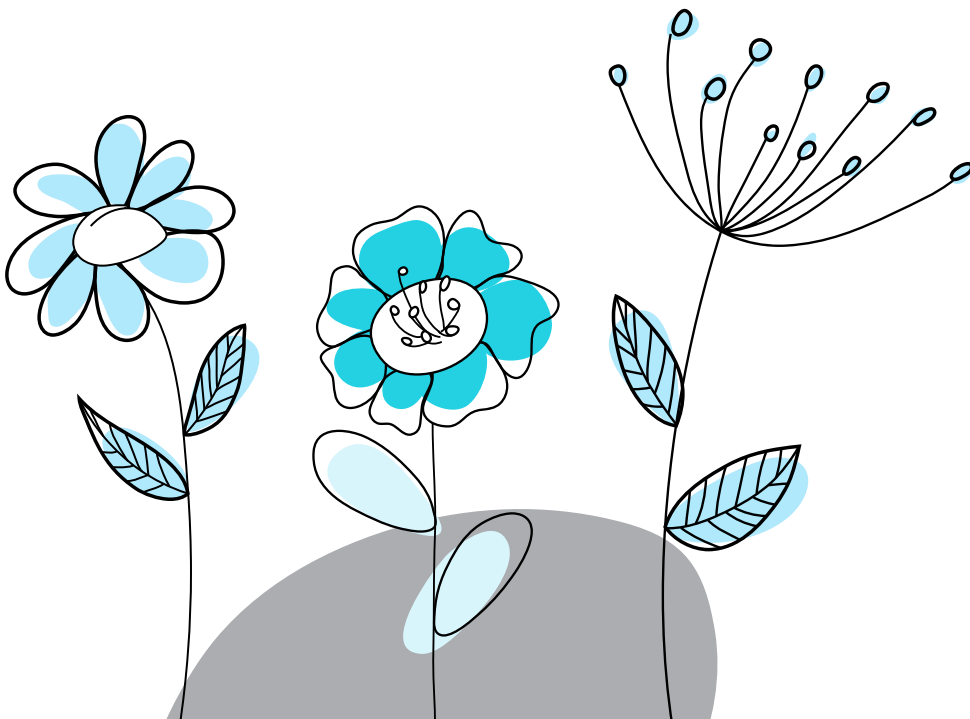


I am six months old: what should I be doing?

- **Beginning to watch people's faces when they speak to me.**
- **Crying with pain or hunger in different ways.**
- **Making noises to get attention.**
- **Making sounds when people talk to me.**
- **Smiling at familiar people.**
- **Responding to the word 'no'.**
- **Beginning to play with sounds for the fun of it, saying, for example, 'bababa'.**



Help your child to learn to talk:

- **Start talking to your baby as soon as he is born**
- **Your baby can't talk yet but he has a lot to say**
- **Your baby's smiles and coos are his way of talking to you:**
 - **Respond to and answer your baby even before he uses words.**
 - **Smile and coo back at your baby to help him to move on to the next stage in learning to talk with words**
- **Look into your baby's eyes - make sure you are close to your baby so he can see you:**
 - **Copy the noises he makes**
 - **When you make eye contact with your baby, or when he makes a noise and you respond with another noise, you are teaching him how to communicate in the most profound and important way**
- **Use gestures, like waving goodbye or pointing. This will help your child understand what's happening.**

