

# IS IT TIME FOR AN AUTISM EVALUATION?

Early Signs of Autism: What to Look For



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## **BEHAVIORS**

- Lines up objects obsessively
- Repeats movements (flapping, rocking)
- Distressed by routine changes
- Fixated on specific interests

## **SPEECH & LANGUAGE DELAYS**

- No babbling by 12 months
- No single words by 16 months
- No two-word phrases by 24 months
- Repeats words without meaning

## SOCIAL COMMUNICATION

- Limited eye contact
- No response to name by 12 months
- Difficulty with gestures (pointing, waving)
- Prefers playing alone

#### **SENSORY SENSITIVITIES**

- Over/underreacts to sounds, textures, or lights
- Avoids certain foods or fabrics
- Unusual fascination with sensory experiences

#### **EMOTIONAL REGULATION**

- Frequent meltdowns
- Intense reactions to minor frustrations
- Trouble calming down
- Struggles with transitions