

PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTION



Developmental Screening

Developmental screening is a regular part of some of the well-child visits for all children even if there is not a known concern. Developmental screening takes a close look at how your child is growing. Your child will get a brief test, or you will complete a questionnaire about your child. The tools used for developmental and behavioral screening are formal questionnaires or checklists based on research that ask questions about your child's development, including language, movement, thinking, behavior, and emotions. These screenings can be done by a doctor or nurse, but also by other professionals in healthcare, early childhood education, community, or school setting.

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends developmental and behavioral screening for all children during regular well-child visits at the following ages: 9 months, 18 months and 30 months.

If your child is at higher risk for developmental concerns due to preterm birth, low birthweight, and/or environmental risk like lead exposure, your healthcare provider will ask for additional screening. If your healthcare provider does not periodically check your child with a developmental screening test, you can ask it be done.

Having a medical home means having consistent access to health care that is well-coordinated and provides an ongoing relationship with personal providers who treat the whole child. Pediatric primary care providers are in a unique position to promote children's healthy development because they have regular contact with children before they reach school age, and their families.

Contact the Scott County Health Department Care for Kids program at 563-328-4114 to schedule a developmental screening, obtain resources to find a medical home, or to learn more about the program.



OUR MISSION:

The Scott County Health Department promotes, protects, and preserves health through leadership, services, education, and partnerships.

OUR VISION:

Scott County —
A safe and healthy
community.



SPECIAL EVENTS

- *Scott County Board of Health Joint Meeting with Scott County Board of Supervisors, Scott County Administrative Center, 1st Floor Boardroom, 12:00 PM, Thursday, October 16, 2025*
- *Presentation of Scott County Cancer Data, Virtual Meeting, 3-4:30 PM, Wednesday, November 5, 2025. Register at: <https://canceriowa.news/scott>*

Links

- SCHD Developmental Screenings: <https://www.scottcountyiowa.gov/health/care-kids/developmental-screenings>
- Developmental Monitoring and Screening for Health Professionals: <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/screening-hcp.html>
- CDC Developmental Monitoring and Screening: <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/screening.html>
- CDC Preventing Childhood Lead Poisoning: <https://www.cdc.gov/lead-prevention/prevention/index.html>

Lead Poisoning Prevention

What is lead poisoning?

Lead poisoning is a condition caused by the presence of excessive lead in the body. It can happen in adults and children, but children are more susceptible. Lead-based paint and lead-contaminated dust in older buildings, such as those built before 1978, are common sources of lead poisoning in children. Exposure to lead can seriously harm a child's health, including damage to the brain and nervous system, slowed growth and development, learning and behavior problems, and hearing and speech problems.

Testing is the only way to know if a child has lead poisoning.

Children should receive a lead test at 12 months and 24 months of age to catch lead exposure early. Check with your child's health care provider, or the Scott County Health Department where lead tests are free for Scott County children ages 1-6 years old, about whether your child should be tested for lead poisoning.



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