

## ***Your Baby's Development***

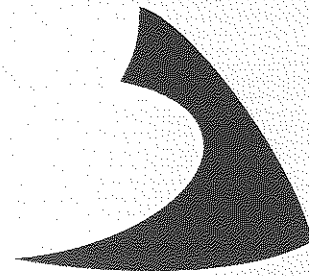
Birth to five years of age is the most important time in a baby's growth and development. In early development babies will:

- begin to bond with others
- learn how to communicate
- learn how to explore their world

Sometimes babies need extra support during their early years.

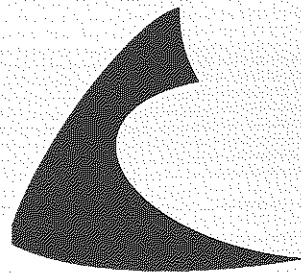
Aboriginal Infant Development Consultants work in respectful ways to support families and their infants through early developmental stages.

Baby's early developmental screening and assessments can help to make a difference in their lifelong learning and well-being.



***Every child is a unique gift from the Creator.***

***The mission of Aboriginal Infant Development Programs is to honour this gift by supporting the development of Aboriginal children within the context of the family, community and culture, and by offering access to culturally appropriate early intervention support programs.***



## ***Aboriginal Infant Development Programs:***

- focus on the child as a whole, to include health, intellectual, emotional, physical and spiritual well-being
- are culturally safe whether a family lives on or off reserve
- offer support for Aboriginal families and infants who are at risk of, or have a developmental delay
- are voluntary, family-centered, and for children birth to 5 years of age
- supports families by providing home visits, activity planning, developmental assessments
- recognizes the role of Elders and extended family in parenting
- may offer a lending library that includes books/videos, journals, toys, and adaptive equipment.
- provides referrals to other health and social services as needed
- are specific for each community

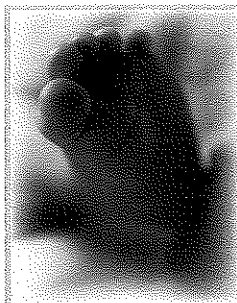


## The Office of the Provincial Advisor for Aboriginal Infant Development Programs

- Provides consultation, support, resources, and leadership for new and established programs both on and off reserve.
- Collaborates with Aboriginal communities, and regional and provincial committees to support Aboriginal infants/families and communities.
- Raises awareness of the importance of healthy infant development and the significance of early intervention and health promotion.
- Is guided by a Provincial Steering Committee which provides support, direction and expertise that draws on the best knowledge and insight from within both Aboriginal communities and current research on early childhood development.
- Provides training in Home Visiting, Developmental Assessments and Screening Tools, and AIDP programming.

Host Agency: BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres  
Funded by: Ministry of Children and Family Development

Contact your local Aboriginal  
Infant Development Program at:



Stella Stump, AIDP  
Denisiqi Services Society  
Phone: 250-392-6500  
Ext: 241  
Fax: 250-392-6501  
Email: [stella@denisiqi.org](mailto:stella@denisiqi.org)

To support Aboriginal Infant Development Programs, or to develop one in your community, call the Provincial Advisor for Aboriginal Infant Development Programs in Victoria at 250-388-5593.

Diana Elliott, Provincial Advisor AIDP:  
[advisor@aidp.bc.ca](mailto:advisor@aidp.bc.ca)

Esther Shackelly, Provincial Assistant:  
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# Cherishing Each and Every Gift



## Aboriginal Infant Development Programs

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