



## Devereux Early Childhood Assessment for Infants (DECA-I)

Infants: 1-18 Months Old

The DECA-I is designed to help support and build upon these within-child protective factors:

### Initiative

The infant's ability to use independent thought and action to meet his or her needs

- Try to do new things
- Imitate actions of others
- Keep trying when unsuccessful
- Show interest in what others are doing
- Adjust his or her energy level to the type of play
- Act happy when praised
- Explore surroundings
- Express his or her dislikes
- Reach for a familiar adult
- Respond to his or her name
- React to another child's cry
- Keep trying to obtain a toy
- Act in a way that makes others show interest
- Easily go from one activity to another
- Seek attention when a familiar adult is with another child
- Enjoy being around other children
- Look to familiar adults when exploring his or her surroundings

### Attachment/Relationships

The mutual, strong, long-lasting relationship between an infant and significant adults, such as parents, family members and teachers

- Act happy with familiar adults
- Show pleasure when interacting with adults
- Accept comfort from a familiar adult
- Smile at familiar adults
- Act happy
- Respond positively to adult attention
- Smile back at a familiar adult
- Calm down with help from a familiar adult
- Make eye contact with others
- Act in a good mood
- Seek comfort from familiar adults
- Show affection for a familiar adult
- Enjoy being cuddled
- Enjoy interacting with others
- Respond when spoken to

**Want to learn more about protective factors and the DECA Program?  
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