

INFANT CUES

Cues are your baby's way of telling you what he or she wants.

ENGAGEMENT CUES - Wanting to be with you

(This is a good time to talk, hold, feed, or play with your baby)

EASY TO SEE

- Stilling (stops moving)
- Lengthy looking at your face
- Smooth movements of arms and legs
- Turning eyes or head towards you
- Smiling
- Feeding sounds
- Cooing/Babbling/Talking
- Reaching out to you
- Arms held close to the body with hands held under the chin (hunger posture)

NOT SO EASY TO SEE

- Eyes wide and bright
- Face bright
- Raising head

DISENGAGEMENT CUES – Needing a break

(Your baby may need to stop eating, playing or being held. They may 'take a rest' themselves by falling asleep, or they may need your help to take a break – as in crying).

EASY TO SEE

- Turning head away
- Crying/Fussiness
- Coughing/Choking
- Back arching
- Falling asleep
- Squirming or kicking
- Pulling away
- Pale or red skin
- Spitting up/Vomiting

NOT SO EASY TO SEE

- Turning eyes away
- Fast breathing
- Yawning
- Wrinkled forehead
- Dull looking eyes
- Frowning
- Hand to mouth
- Hiccoughs
- Pushing out of lips
- Fingers straight and very open
- Hands joined over stomach
- Arms pulled to side of body, with elbows tightly bent
- Pulling at clothes