

Parent Infant Program screens development

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The Summer has really hurried by this year. To visit all the villages without snow has been fun and sometimes a bit confusing (Without snow drifts some houses sure look

different. Their entrances are all wrong!) But the wild flowers were wonderful and so many different kinds.

As the Parent Infant Program starts its third year it is interesting to look back over the previous two years. I averaged almost 250 home visits

each year.

While the first year only 60 infants were screened, last year 90 infants were screened. The average number of infants enrolled in the program has remained around 6 for both years.

If you know of an infant (under three years of age) who may be having some developmental problems, or problems with his or her learning, seeing, talking or moving around, or you just have some questions, please feel free to phone me at 852-3999.

Infants are so ready to learn. Be sure to provide as many opportunities as possible for them to use their eyes, ears, mouth, arms and legs.

Give them simple everyday objects to explore. Hang things in their crib, so when they are awake they have something to look at and think about.

Call things by the particular names over and over again, so your infant can start connecting what he/she sees with its name.

Once infants understand the connection and can recall the word (this happens before the infant ever tries to say the word) they can continue to think about the objects even if they are not around. Most specialists agree birth to three years of age is the most important learning time in your child's lifetime.

