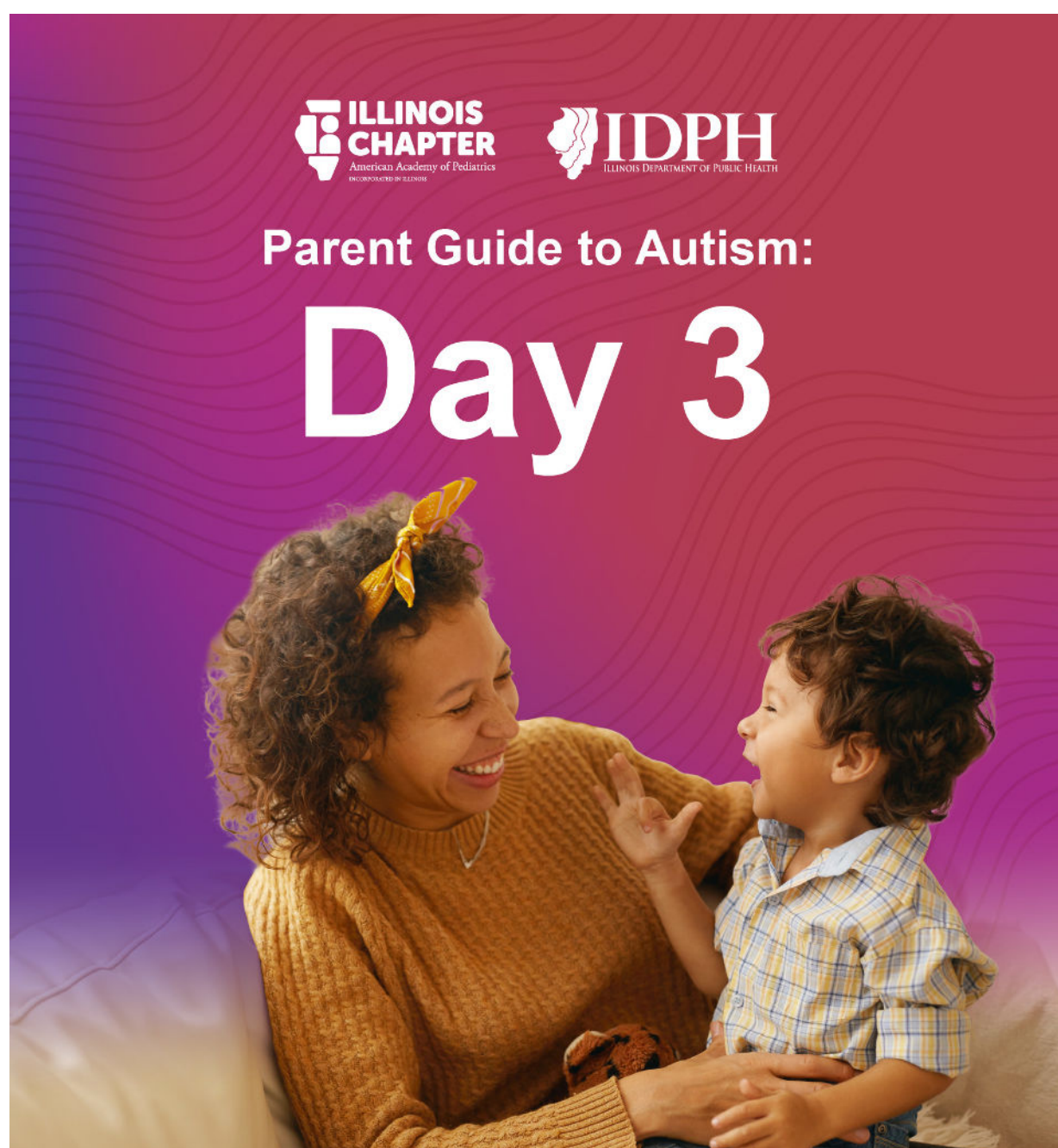


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Welcome back, <<First Name>>!

How Autism Shows Up Differently in Each Child

Early Signs

Many children with autism learn to crawl and walk, which are physical milestones, at the same time as other kids. Differences usually show up in how children talk, play, and connect with people. Watching these behaviors closely can be very helpful.

What to Look For by Age

- **By around 12 months**, many children can look where you point. A child with autism may not do this.
- **By around 15 months**, many children are pointing to show you things and look back and forth to check if you notice what they see too. A child with autism may not do this or they may seem uninterested – they might also bring you to the object instead of pointing.

Common Signs and Behaviors



Communication delays. Most children with autism show some delays with non-verbal (body language, eye contact, etc.) and verbal communication (or talking). They may also not respond or turn when their name is called.



Loss of skills or regression. Some children with autism may start to develop words, social behaviors, or interactive skills, but then lose those skills.



Sensitivity to food textures, or sounds. Some children with autism may start to chew certain objects or food items, or show aversions. They may also close their ears when hearing certain sounds, like vacuum cleaners, or the fire truck.

Every Child is Different

Autism can look very different from one child to another. A common phrase among pediatric providers is, “If you’ve met one child with autism, you’ve met one child with autism.”



What to Do If You Have Concerns

If you have worries about how your child plays, learns, talks, or moves, share them with your child’s pediatrician. You know your child best, and taking steps early can make a big difference.

Helpful Resource:

- [3 Early Signs of Autism Spectrum Disorder](#) – Learn about key developmental behaviors that may signal autism

Tomorrow we'll share practical tips for supporting children with autism in everyday life. You're doing great, keep going!

With care,

The ICAAP Team

Get Connected!



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