Young children at risk for developing autism:

- **Might not** babble or talk back and forth with another person.
- **Might not** smile in response to your smile.
- **Might not** respond to their name by looking at you or turning towards you.
- **Might not** enjoy cuddling.
- **Might not** point at things to show you or to request them.
- **Might not** say their first words by 12-24 months of age.
- **Might not** play “pretend” games.
- **Might** avoid eye contact.
- **Might** have trouble adjusting to changes in routines.
- **Might** repeat or echo sounds, words or phrases said to them.
- **Might** engage in unusual, repetitive behavior or routines.
- **Might** play with toys in an unusual or inappropriate way (e.g. spins the wheels on a toy car, lines up blocks) or engage in behavior such as flapping hands, rocking, or spinning.
- **Might** lose skills they once had.
- **Might** walk or run with an awkward gait.
- **Might** have unusual reactions to ordinary sensory stimuli such as touch, sound, taste, or visual stimuli.
- **Might** appear to be in his or her own world.

If you have concerns that your child might have autism, please contact your child’s physician or talk to one of the autism experts at the Groden Center.