

# Natural Help 4...

# Child Growth



## Keeping an Eye on Child Growth

From the moment a newborn baby is brought home from the hospital, **most parents eagerly monitor their child's development**. Every milestone is excitedly anticipated, and it is so tempting to compare your own little one with other children of the same age. After all, everyone wants the assurance that their child is **growing healthily along normal growth patterns**.

However, “normal” is a relative term, and it's important to remember that **all children grow and develop at different rates**, and that they all come in different shapes and sizes unique to their own genetic coding. Some children tend to grow steadily over time, while **others may fluctuate between periods of slow growth and rapid growth spurts** where they often catch up to their peers.

Nevertheless, it is useful to keep an eye on **your child's development patterns** and alert your child's pediatrician if you are concerned.

## Child Growth Explained

While all children grow at different rates, there are some **guidelines that can help you identify if your child falls within the normal range**, or if you need to be at all concerned.

## Typical Growth Rates for Children

The **first year of a child's life is a time of rapid growth and huge change**, and noticeable changes are seen from week to week. Infants **tend to grow approximately 10 inches** in this year, and have usually **tripled their birth weight** by the time they reach their first birthday. Because this stage is characterized by such **rapid growth**, parents often get somewhat concerned when this growth drastically slows down in the years to follow.

Even more concerning is that this **decrease in growth rate** often coincides with a **slump in appetite**, as the body does not need as much energy. It is not uncommon for parents to suddenly become concerned as first their **child loses interest in food with a decreased appetite**, and now it seems they have stopped growing!

This **fairly drastic decline in growth rate is normal**, and you can expect to see a decline as your infant enters the toddler years. From the age of 2 to 3 years, you can **expect your child to grow fairly steadily**, at a rate of about 2 inches per year all the way until adolescence. Keep in mind that this **growth may**

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**happen during growth spurt intervals**, and is not a steady rate for many children.

## Diagnosing a Growth Problem

Your pediatrician or the staff at your community clinic will **keep a check on your child's development** and growth, and so it is important to keep regular appointments so that any problems can be quickly spotted.

While **weight and height are predominantly guided by genetic factors**, you should consider contacting a physician or endocrinologist (specialist in the area of growth disorders) if you suspect any serious problems or if your child's growth rate seems to be drastically falling behind peers. **Children tend to remain along a similar growth pattern**, and if this pattern changes considerably, it could be a **sign of an underlying condition**.

## Growth Charts and Body Mass Index

**Growth charts and body mass index (BMI) calculators** are available online and may be useful for your own records. Growth charts will help you **determine what percentile your child is at**. For example, if your child is in at the 50th percentile for height, it really means that for that age and gender, your child is taller than 50% of his or her peers and shorter than 50% of his or her peers. Keep in mind however, that these are merely rough guidelines and are **generally not used as diagnostic tools**.

## Possible Signs of a Growth Problem

- If your child's plotted percentile changes drastically. For example, if your child's height was marked at the 70th percentile and has now moved down to the 20th or 10th percentile.
- Your child is plotted on the growth curve below the 3rd percentile.
- Consistently poor appetite and/or poor nutrition.
- Chronic abdominal pain and/or diarrhea.
- Marked weight loss or weight gain.
- Delayed puberty.
- A height very much below that predicted by the heights of both parents.
- If other dysmorphic signs are present which can be indicative of a chromosomal disorder.

## Encouraging Natural Child Growth

Children generally grow to their **genetic height potential** with little outside assistance. What parents can do to help their **child's optimal growth and development** is to create the best possible environment for this growth to take place.

**Normal growth** depends on **sufficient nutrition and a healthy lifestyle** that includes a balanced and healthy diet, regular exercise, adequate sleep (free of sleep disorders or sleep problems), with most children needing between 10 and 12 hours per night.



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### Michele Carelse, Clinical Psychologist



All of our natural remedies are formulated by our expert team of herbalists, naturopaths and homeopaths, and headed by Michele Carelse.

Michele has had years of experience in the manufacturing and use of natural remedies. In addition, she is a trained Clinical Psychologist and has been incorporating natural remedies into her treatment of patients with depression, anxiety, ADD, ADHD and stress for many years with spectacular results.

**If your child is concerned** about being too short or too tall, **try to explain that everyone is different** and that each person is exactly the right height for themselves. This can help children accept this unique quality as a part of who they are. Being shorter or taller than peers can be difficult for youngsters who want to fit in and can **create added anxiety or stress**, so assure them that it is no more different than them having different color eyes to the next child.

Also ensure that you **address issues of teasing at school** and avoid drawing additional attention to the matter. Chances are that your child will soon catch up or balance out with peers by the time puberty is reached.

## Natural Remedies for Optimal Growth

While **healthily growth and development** is something that all parents want for their children, it is generally not something high on the priority list of most children. We can all relate to the phrase, “but it’s good for you!” and yet this does little to entice your four year old to eat his broccoli and peas!

Even more distressing is when children just don’t seem to have any appetite at all. Luckily, a few well-known herbs could **increase your child’s appetite** to ensure the best nutrition essential for optimal growth and healthy development.

Herbs such as Emblica officinalis help to increase body mass by stimulating protein synthesis, while promoting a healthy metabolism. Other herbal ingredients such as Trigonella foenum-graecum, Ginger, and Borago officinalis work to stimulate little appetites and assist with healthy growth and development.

## The Natural Approach

While Western medicine has become the norm in many cultures, it is **not the only treatment option**. Conventional Western medicine (often called allopathic or orthodox medicine) is the system of medicine taught at most medical schools, and many pharmaceutical and synthetic medicines are manufactured and marketed according to the principles of allopathic medicine.

Because most of us in the Western world have grown up in a society in which allopathic medicine is the prevailing norm, we forget that only a few decades ago, homeopathic, herbal and other natural medicines were commonly available and freely used-- even by conventional doctors. While there are often heated debates about which system of medicine is ‘better’ than the other, many responsible doctors (whether they are allopathic or not) recognize that **both have a role to play in the treatment program**.

Natural medicine has often been frowned upon by conventional doctors, especially by those who do not have sufficient knowledge of these medicines. However, it is encouraging to note that some medical schools are now beginning to re-introduce it into their course work, thereby **providing doctors with a wider range of treatment options** from which to choose. In many countries, especially in Europe, India and China, **natural and homeopathic medicines are commonly prescribed** by conventional doctors and represent a significant part of the total annual drug sales.

Naturopathy is a branch of medicine (just as allopathy is a branch of medicine)

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which operates according to the underlying philosophy that the **body has an innate capacity to heal itself**. While natural medicines are often called 'alternative' or 'complimentary' medicines, they are, in fact, a **unique and independent form of medicine** in their own right, well able to **treat a variety of conditions**. Perhaps the term 'holistic' medicine is more apt, given the broad range of treatment options and approaches which are to be found within the practice of natural medicine. This encompasses many different disciplines, including herbalism, homeopathy, iridology, osteopathy, chiropractic, therapeutic massage techniques, aromatherapy, acupuncture and many, many more.

Most naturopaths will use a variety of treatment modalities in order to treat their patients in a **holistic way to support health, relieve symptoms and prevent future disease**. In fact, even the World Health Organization defines health as being "... more than simply the absence of illness. It is the active state of physical, emotional, mental and social well-being." This is a wonderfully clear description of holistic or natural medicine, which strives to **support health** (thereby relieving or preventing symptoms), rather than simply eliminating disease.

Although allopathic medicine certainly has a role to play and has made a tremendous contribution to medical science during the past century, there is a growing perception that it is not the only answer. In many cases, **holistic medicine can accomplish just as much**, if not more – without the risk of side effects, addiction and sacrifice to health so commonly associated with pharmaceutical drugs. Contrary to common perception, and provided that they are manufactured in the correct way, **natural medicines can work quickly and safely to promote healing**.

In many cases, they can **succeed where pharmaceutical drugs have failed**. Despite frequent reports that they are 'unproven' and 'untested', the opposite is true. Natural medicines have a **long history of usage** and there is a **wealth of empirical evidence** to support their effectiveness and safety. In addition, active clinical research is carried out by many academic hospitals and universities to **support the extensive traditional and empirical evidence behind natural medicines**.

It is also important to know that, like any medicine, herbal and homeopathic medicines **must be manufactured in the correct way**, following acceptable procedures and manufacturing methods to ensure maximum effectiveness and safety. Due to the recent rise in popularity of natural remedies, many companies have sprung up to take advantage of the market. Unfortunately, **not all of them are equipped to manufacture to the correct standards**, often resulting in a flood of inferior (and sometimes even unsafe) remedies onto the market – and giving natural remedies a bad name.

Even some pharmaceutical companies have rushed to claim their market share by producing so-called 'standardized' extracts of herbs and offering these as superior to the tried and tested methods of naturopathic manufacturing. Nothing could be further from the truth. While **'standardized' extracts** may offer benefit of easy consistency of dosage (and cheaper more efficient production lines), they have **grave disadvantages**, including an increase in side effects, as the medicines produced in this manner lose the natural protective properties of the herbs. In some cases, these side effects have proved fatal – as was seen in the liver toxicity associated with standardized extracts of kava kava, a herb previously safely used for generations without any known side effects.



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## herbal & homeopathic remedies:

Most naturopaths recommend what is called the Full Spectrum Method of extraction – which **retains the benefits of ALL the active ingredients within the herb** as opposed to isolating only one – thereby providing a more complete treatment as well as superior protection against side effects.

Whatever your choice, **always choose wisely**. Research what is best for you. If you have a chronic or life-threatening condition, don't make changes without first discussing them with your doctor, in order that your condition may be monitored. **Well-informed and supportive practitioners will support patients** who want to take responsibility for their own health.

## Related Natural Remedies:

**Kiddie Florish**: Naturally encourages a child's healthy appetite.

Kiddie Florish is a 100% safe, non-addictive natural herbal remedy formulated by a Clinical Psychologist for fussy and picky eaters. Kiddie Florish contains a selection of herbs known for their **supportive function in promoting digestive calm and well-being**.

Kiddie Florish can be effectively used to safely promote a healthy appetite, routine nutrient absorption and systemic balance in the stomach and digestive system, **without harmful side effects**.

In combination with a healthy lifestyle and balanced nutrition, Kiddie Florish supports a child's growing body, thereby helping to support growth through nutrient intake. Vital organs in the body that are instrumental in **regulating appetite, metabolism and energy** expenditure need systemic harmony to function properly.

The formula remains true to the **whole spectrum method** of herbal extraction, ensuring the bio-availability and balance of all the active ingredients contained in the remedy. This method of manufacture maintains all active ingredients in perfect balance – exactly as nature intended!

[Learn more about Kiddie Florish](#)

**Kiddie Boost**: Support healthy immune functioning in children.

KiddieBoost is a 100% safe and natural formula containing carefully selected herbal ingredients known for their **tonic effects on the immune system**, as well as their high safety profile in children's remedies, compared to possibly harsh antibiotic side effects in children.

When children attend school, daycare, or preschool, they are particularly prone to picking up viruses and bugs. To help protect their immune systems, KiddieBoost has been specifically formulated to **strengthen a child's immune system** from the age of 12 months. KiddieBoost comes in a convenient drop formula that is easy to administer to children.

KiddieBoost is developed with care by our team of specialists, is 100% natural, and manufactured according to the highest pharmaceutical standards using the **whole**

1) All Native Remedies products are manufactured according to the highest pharmaceutical standards - using only the best quality raw ingredients from nature's medicine chest.

2) Native Remedies and our suppliers are registered with the FDA as accredited suppliers and manufacturers of health supplements. Our products are sold all over the world and are manufactured to strict international standards in a GMP accredited manufacturing plant.

3) All our remedies are manufactured in an FDA registered pharmaceutical facility under close supervision.

This includes formulation, acquiring and testing of raw ingredients as well as final manufacturing. This gives us the confidence to say that when you are buying a Native Remedies product, you are buying the safest and the best! We know what goes into our remedies - which is why we know what you will get out of them!

4) Manufacturing is done strictly according to the principles of GMP (Good Manufacturing Practice) and all raw ingredients undergo stringent testing before being approved by our registered manufacturing pharmacists.

5) We offer a free email [Ask Our Experts](#) service run by trained consultants ready to advise you on the best choice for your health.

6) We offer an unconditional [One Year Money Back Guarantee](#).

**spectrum method** of herbal extraction.

This method ensures the bioavailability and balance of all the active ingredients contained in the remedy. This method of manufacture also significantly **reduces the likelihood of side effects** and maintains all active ingredients in perfect balance – exactly as nature intended!

[Learn more about Kiddie Boost](#)

Read the testimonials for these quality products [here!](#)



[\*\*Read more about the Native Remedies Full Spectrum Approach™\*\*](#)

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