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PRIMITIVE REFLEX INTEGRATION

Every baby is born with primitive reflexes.

Primitive reflexes are reflexes that appear in infancy and are integrated into normal movement patterns as the infant develops during the first months of life. These reflexes which are repetitive and automatic are essential for the development of head control, muscle tone, sensory integration and motor and emotional development.

Many of the children that we see at Pediatric Potentials commonly demonstrate signs of these reflexes not being integrated. Non-integrated reflexes may interfere with the development of more advanced motor skills. Reflex integration is an important component of a comprehensive therapy program.

The primitive reflexes include:

REFLEX	INDICATORS OF NON-INTEGRATION
Asymmetrical Tonic Neck Reflex (ATNR)	Delay in motor milestones, difficulty crossing midline, visual-perceptual difficulties, poor organization
Symmetrical Tonic Neck Reflex (STNR)	“W” sitting. Falls out of chair, clumsy, poor balance, messy eater
Tonic Labyrinthine Reflex (TLR)	Low muscle tone, dislikes physical activity, toe walking, poor sequencing, oculomotor and vestibular difficulties

Moro Reflex	Hypersensitivity, difficulty with transitions, anxiety, dislikes change or surprise, mood swings, parents walk on eggshells to keep the world right for their kids
Galant Reflex	Strong ATNR and STNR, fidgets, bedwetting, never crawled, sensitive to several senses