

Speech, Language, and Hearing Checklist

Directions: Print out and start one year earlier than your child's chronological age. If you notice that after completing the checklist that your child does not demonstrate most of the skills for his/her age, please call for a free consultation.

Birth-3 months

- Is startled by loud sounds
- Quiets or smiles when spoken to
- Seems to recognize your voice and calms if crying
- Makes content sounds (e.g. cooing going)
- Cries differently for different needs
- Smiles when he/she sees you

4-6 months

- Moves eyes in direction of sounds
- Responds to changes in tone of your voice
- Pays attention to music
- Babbling sounds more speech-like with many different sounds including p, b, and m
- Laughs and chuckles
- Vocalizes excitement and displeasure
- Makes gurgling sounds when left alone and when playing with you

7-12 months:

- Enjoys games like peek-a-boo and pat-a-cake
- Turns and looks in direction of sounds
- Recognizes words for common items like "cup", "shoe", "book", or "juice"
- Begins to respond to requests (e.g. "Come here" or "Want more?")
- Babbling has both long and short groups of sounds such as "tata upup bibibibi"
- Uses speech or noncrying sounds to get and keep attention
- Uses gestures to communicate (waving, holding arms to be picked up)
- Imitates different speech sounds
- Has one or two words (hi, dog, dada, mama) around first birthday.

12-24 months

- Follows 1 step commands without gestural cues
- Plays simple pretend (feed baby doll)
- Demonstrates understanding of common objects
- Knows at least one body part.
- Uses gestures such as shaking head for "no" and pointing for requests
- Says more words every month.

Brought to you by Elizabeth Lian, CCC-SLP at Speech Spark Therapy Services, LLC
The information in this resource was obtained from:

<https://www.asha.org>
<https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/milestones/index.html>

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- Puts two words together for questions, requests, and comments ("more cookie," "no juice," "mommy book", "Where kitty?" "What that?").
- Uses many different consonant sounds at the beginning of words
- By 2 years old, your child may say anywhere from 50-200 words.

2-3 years

- Understands differences in meaning ("go-stop," "in-on," "big-little," "up-down").
- Follows two step requests ("Get the book and put it on the table").
- Listens to and enjoys hearing stories for longer periods of time
- Has a word for almost everything.
- Uses two- or three- words to talk about and ask for things.
- Uses *k, g, f, t, d,* and *n* sounds.
- Speech is understood by familiar listeners most of the time.
- Asks why?
- May stutter on words or sounds

3-4 years:

- Understands words for some colors and shapes
- Understands words for family, like brother, grandmother, and aunt
- Talks about what happened during the day. Uses about 4 sentences at a time.
- Speech is understood by unfamiliar listeners 75-100% of the time.
- Answers simple "who?", "what?", and "where?" questions.
- Asks "when" and "how" questions.
- Says rhyming words, like hat-cat
- Uses pronouns, like I, you, me, we, and they
- Uses a lot of sentences that have 4 or more words.
- Usually talks easily without repeating syllables or words.

4-5 years

- Hear and understands most of what is said at home and school
- Pays attention to a short story and can answer questions about it
- Uses more complex sentences that give lots of details ("The biggest cookie is mine.")
- Able to maintain a topic when telling a story
- Communicates easily with peers and adults
- Says rhyming sounds
- Says most sounds correctly except for a few later mastered sounds (l, s, r, v, z, ch, sh, th)
- Uses the same grammar as the rest of the family.

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