

# Speech and Language Milestones

## What should my child be able to do?

Hearing and Understanding	Talking
<p><b>Birth-3 Months</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Startles to loud sounds.</li> <li>Quiets or smiles when spoken to.</li> <li>Seems to recognize your voice and quiets if crying.</li> <li>Increases or decreases sucking behavior in response to sound.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Birth-3 Months</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Makes pleasure sounds (cooing, gooing).</li> <li>Cries differently for different needs.</li> <li>Smiles when sees you.</li> </ul>
<p><b>4-6 Months</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moves eyes in direction of sounds.</li> <li>Responds to changes in tone of your voice.</li> <li>Notices toys that make sounds.</li> <li>Pays attention to music.</li> </ul>	<p><b>4-6 Months</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Babbling sounds more speech-like with many different sounds, including <i>p</i>, <i>b</i>, and <i>m</i>.</li> <li>Chuckles and giggles.</li> <li>Vocalizes excitement and displeasure.</li> <li>Makes gurgling sounds when left alone and when playing with you.</li> </ul>
<p><b>7 Months-1 Year</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enjoys games like peek-o-boo and pat-a-cake.</li> <li>Turns and looks in direction of sounds.</li> <li>Listens when spoken to.</li> <li>Recognizes words for common items like “cup”, “shoe”, “book”, or “juice”.</li> <li>Begins to respond to requests (e.g. “Come here” or “Want more?”).</li> </ul>	<p><b>7 Months-1 Year</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Babbling has both long and short groups of sounds such as “tata upup bibibibi.”</li> <li>Uses speech or non-crying sounds to get and keep attention.</li> <li>Uses gestures to communication (waving, holding arms to be picked up)</li> <li>Imitates different speech sounds.</li> <li>Has one or two words (hi, dog, dada, mama) around first birthday, although sounds may not be clear.</li> </ul>
<p><b>One to Two Years</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Points to a few body parts when asked.</li> <li>Follows simple commands and understands simple questions (“Roll the ball”, “Kiss the baby”, “Where’s your shoe?”).</li> <li>Listens to simple stories, songs, and rhymes.</li> <li>Points to pictures in a book when named.</li> </ul>	<p><b>One to Two Years</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Says more words every month.</li> <li>Uses some one- or two- word questions (“Where kitty?”, “Go bye-bye?”, “What’s that?”).</li> <li>Puts two words together (“more cookie”, “no juice”, “mommy book”).</li> <li>Uses many different consonant sounds of the beginning of words.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Two to Three Years</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understands differences in meaning (“go-stop”, “in-on”, “big-little”, “up-down”).</li> <li>Follows two requests (“Get the book and put it on the table”).</li> <li>Listens to and enjoys hearing stories for longer periods of time.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Two to Three Years</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has a word for almost everything.</li> <li>Uses two- or three- words to talk about and ask for things.</li> <li>Uses <i>k</i>, <i>g</i>, <i>f</i>, <i>t</i>, <i>d</i>, and <i>n</i> sounds.</li> <li>Speech is understood by familiar listeners most of the time.</li> <li>Often asks for or directs attention to objects by naming them.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Three to Four Years</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hears you when call from another room.</li> <li>Hears television or radio at the same loudness level as other family members.</li> <li>Answers simple, “who?”, “what?”, “where?”, and “why?” questions.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Three to Four Years</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Talks about activities at school or at friends’ homes.</li> <li>People outside family usually understand child’s speech.</li> <li>Uses a lot of sentences that have 4 or more words.</li> <li>Usually talks easily without repeating syllables or words.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Four to Five Years</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pays attention to a short story and answers simple questions about them.</li> <li>Hears and understands most of what is said at home and in school.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Four to Five Years</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uses sentences that give lots of details (“The biggest peach is mine”).</li> <li>Tells stories that stick to topic.</li> <li>Communicates easily with other children and adults.</li> <li>Says most sounds correctly except a few like <i>l</i>, <i>s</i>, <i>r</i>, <i>v</i>, <i>z</i>, <i>ch</i>, <i>sh</i>, <i>th</i>.</li> <li>Says rhyming words.</li> <li>Names some letters and numbers.</li> <li>Uses the same grammar as the rest of the family.</li> </ul>

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