

Speech and Language Milestone Moments

It is important to know when skills typically develop. For more information, visit our website at www.speechlanguagekids.com!

6 months

- Responds to own name
- Follows sounds with his or her eyes
- Babbles by practicing many different sounds, including “p”, “b”, and “m”

1 year

- Says first word
- Understands “no” and words for common nouns, such as “ball”
- Imitates sounds and gestures of others
- Uses finger to point and communicates with gestures
- Responds to simple requests, such as “come here”

18 months

- Says several words
- Shakes head “no”
- Learns new words on a regular basis

2 years

- Identifies pictures or objects by pointing
- Understands simple “yes” and “no” questions
- Combines words to form short phrases (for example, “eat apple”)
- Speech can be understood at least 50% of the time

3 years

- Names verbally most familiar objects and pictured objects
- Understands basic location words (for example, “in”, “on”, and “under”)
- Follows 2-3 step directions
- Speaks in sentences
- Speech can be understood about 75% of the time
- Uses “p”, “b”, “y”, “w”, “m”, “n”, “t”, “d”, “k”, “g”, “f”, and “h” sounds

4 years

- Speech can be understood in almost all instances
- Answers simple Wh- questions (Who?, What?, Where?)
- Uses “v”, “l”, “j”, “s”, “z”, “ch”, “zh” and “sh” sounds

5 years

- Tells a simple story
- Uses future tense (for example, “I will drink water”)
- Answers more complex Wh- questions (When? and Why?)
- Uses “th” and “r” sounds