

SPEECH & LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONES

0-5 months

- Reacts to loud sounds
- Looks at familiar faces when being spoken to
- Vocalises likes and dislikes



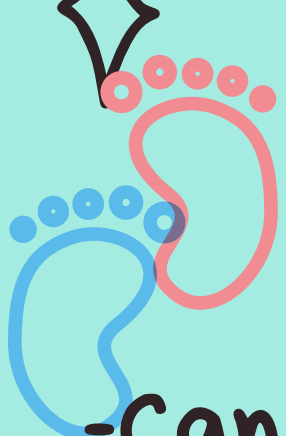
18-23 months

- Understands approximately 50 words
- Says about 10-50 single words
- Understands simple verbs e.g., eat, sleep
- Starting to combine two word phrases e.g. "more car"
- Able to follow simple verbal directions and commands e.g. shoes off, where is the car?

6-11 months

- Babbling e.g. "baba", "mama"

- Can the child copy an action/gesture e.g., waving
- Copying early sounds, vowels and consonants e.g. "buh", "guh"



12-18 months

- Can understand simple routine requests e.g. give me cup
- Range of 1-10 first words (labelling nouns e.g. car, ball)
- Attempts copying words and starting to point

2-3 years

- Range of 50-300 words
- Able to use pronouns "you", "I", "me", "he", "she", "her", "him"
- Begins asking "What", "Where" questions
- Uses regular plurals e.g., "two dogs"
- Begins understanding of concepts e.g., spatial (in/on), colours, time (tomorrow/yesterday)
- Some understanding and use of simple past tense verbs e.g., "walked"



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3-4 years

- Begins to categorise and group objects (foods, colours)
- Uses most speech sounds, may have some mistakes with more difficult sounds (e.g., s, sh, ch, th, l, r...)
- Able to describe function of objects e.g. use a pen to write/draw etc
- Understands and uses language absurdities "Do we eat in the toilet?"
- Able to follow 3 part commands e.g. Give the big banana to the teddy
- Able to retell simple stories. Speaks in sentences of 5-6 words

4-5 years

- Understands and uses "how" and "why" questions
- Starts using irregular past tense verbs e.g., "ran", "ate"
- Able to sequence and describe steps on how to do something
- Speech is mostly intelligible but can still make mistakes with multisyllabic words e.g., "helicopter"

By 5 years

- Understands time sequence (Before/After)
- Able to engage in two way conversation
- Uses compound and complex sentences
- Showing increased independence
- Able to use imagination to create short stories
- Understands and uses rhymes

