




Concerned about your child's
speech and language?

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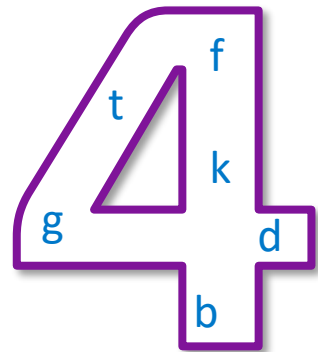
Speech Sound Milestones

Children vary in their development of speech and language skills. However, there is a “timetable” or natural progression that serves as a guide for typical development. These milestones help doctors, parents, and professionals determine when a child may need extra help to learn to speak and/or use language.

90% of children can pronounce these English consonants and consonant-blends by the specified age.



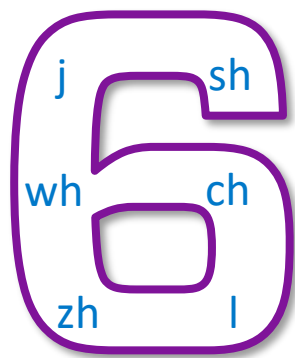
months



months



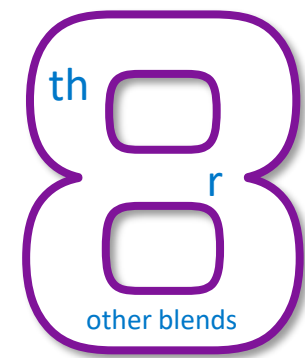
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months



months



months

Expressive Language Milestones

0 to 6 Months

- Makes pleasure sounds (e.g. coos and gurgles)
- Expresses wants/needs through crying
- Repeats the same sounds
- Babbles various bilabial speech sounds (b, p, m)

6 to 12 Months

- Imitates speech sounds and simple intonation patterns
- Babbling includes large variety of speech sounds (w, j, m, n, p, b, d, h)
- Vocabulary of about 3 words
- Uses speech or non-crying sounds to get attention

1 to 2 Years

- Uses adult-like intonation patterns
- May omit final consonants
- By 15 months, first words pronounced
- By 24 months, vocabulary of 50 to 100 words
- Early words primarily nouns
- Starts to combine words (e.g. more cookie, mommy book)
- Continues to use vocalizations and/or gestures in addition to words to express wants/needs to express

2 to 3 Years

- Uses phrases containing 2 to 4 words
- Asks 1 to 2 word "wh" questions (e.g. "Where mommy?" "What that?")
- Exhibits multiple grammatical errors
- Speech is about 50 to 75% intelligible
- Increase variety of speech sounds, adds f, t, j, ng, g, k
- Vocabulary of 50 to 250 words

3 to 4 Years

- Uses increasing number of compound and complex sentences
- Speech is about 80% intelligible
- Continues to increase variety of speech sounds, adds v, s, l, sh
- Vocabulary of approximately 800 to 1,500 words

4 to 5 years

- Says most sounds, voice sounds are clear
- Uses sentences that give a lot of details with correct grammar
- Tells stories that stick to the topic
- Communicates easily with others

Receptive Language Milestones

0 to 6 Months

- Smiles when spoken to
- Recognizes familiar voices
- Understands “no”
- Turns head to localize sounds
- Responds to changes in tone of voice

6 to 12 Months

- Understands up to 10 single words
- Follows simple requests or commands
- Enjoys social games (e.g. peek-a-boo)

1 to 2 Years

- Understands about 300 words
- Follows simple commands
- Identifies 3 body parts upon request
- Points to pictures in a book when named

2 to 3 Years

- Understands 500 to 900 words
- Follows 2-part commands
- Identifies various body parts

3 to 4 Years

- Understands about 1,000 to 2,000 words
- Follows 2 and 3 part commands
- Understands opposites
- Describes the function of an object
- Identifies colors

4 to 5 years

- Pays attention to short stories and answers questions about it
- Hears and understands most of what is said at home and at school

Feeding Milestones

| | Typical Oral Skills Development | Transitioning to Solid Foods |
|-----------------|---|--|
| 0 to 4 Months | suckle nipple | breast/bottle |
| 4 to 6 Months | suckle from spoon | cereal, stage 1 baby foods |
| 6 to 9 Months | munching, emerging tongue lateralization | teething biscuits, dissolvable crackers |
| 9 to 12 Months | independent cup drinking | soft finger foods, introduce cup drinking |
| 12 to 18 Months | lateral tongue movement, straw drinking | experimenting with a variety of tastes and textures |
| 18 to 21 Months | rotary chew emerging | most table foods, bite-size pieces |
| 24 + Months | mature chew | |

Play and Social Milestones

9 to 12 Months

- Aware that objects exist when not seen; finds partially hidden toys
- Does not mouth/band ALL toys; some are used appropriately

13 to 17 Months

- Purposeful exploration of toys
- Hands toys to adult if unable to operate

17 to 19 Months

- Functional play (e.g. pretends to sleep, drinks from cup)
- Use of tools
- Finds completely hidden toys

19 to 22 Months

- Performs pretend activities on more than one person/object (e.g. doll play)
- Combines 2 toys in play (e.g. pours from pot into cup)

24 Months

- Represents daily experiences
- Stacking/knocking down
- Filling, pouring, dumping

30 Months

- Represents events less frequently experiences
- Realistic props

3 Years

- Play with a sequence
- Reenact experienced events with new outcomes
- Associative play

3 to 3 ½ Years

- Carries out earlier play with dollhouse
- Imaginative play with blocks / sand
- Objects represent others
- Dolls/puppets participate in Play

3 ½ to 4 Years

- Problem-solving not based on experiences; plans ahead
- Uses dolls/puppets to act out scenes
- 3-dimensional building

4 to 5 Years

- Plans sequence of pretend events
- Imaginative; sets the scene without realistic props
- Cooperative play