

CHILD SPEECH AND LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

BIRTH TO 5 YEARS



Ministry Rehabilitation Services
A Department of Sacred Heart-
Saint Mary's Hospitals

Birth to One Year

Age	Development
0-1 mo.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cries when hungry
1-2 mo.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiets when picked up • Responds to sound of voice
3-6 mo.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begins to laugh, squeal, grunt • Vocalizes single sounds • Many vowels, searches for sound with eyes
3-7 mo.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Babbling begins, responds to sound stimulation or speech • Vocalizes and babbles • Awakens and quiets to mother's voice • Important stage to talk to your child, play music
4-6 mo.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Babbles chains (BABABA)
5-7 mo.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looks and vocalizes to name
5-8 mo.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shows interest in sounds of objects • Intonation patterns like adults, distinctive • Can emphasize and show emotion through speech
6-11 mo.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeats "mama" "dada" non-specifically
By 8 mo.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shouts for attention
8-12 mo.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follows simple directions • May have a personal language • One word phrases... one word carries a lot of meaning (i.e. "mama" can mean "where's mama" or "look at this mama") • Gestures begin • Ten "words" by first birthday

One to Two Years

Age	Development
By 14 mo.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific labels for people in child's life
11-15 mo.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short plateau of speech as motor skills increase
13-15 mo.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looks to adult to help solve problems • Points to, reaches for, vocalizes for an object • Says "no" meaningfully • Can identify three body parts on self or you • Asks for objects with words
15-18 mo.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued vocabulary development
18-24 mo.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two word phrases begin (i.e. "mommy go") • Vocabulary rapidly developing to 50 to 100 words • Understands 30 words • Imitates environmental noises (i.e. cars, trucks, animals)

Two to Three Years

Age	Development
24-30 mo.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can identify objects by use <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a chair is to sit in - a spoon is to eat with • Can follow two related commands <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - give the baby a hug • Uses 200 words • Understands 500 words • Most people can understand the child 70% of the time • Can sing simple songs
30-36 mo.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listens to a two minute story • Identifies pictures by use • Three to four word sentences • 500 word vocabulary • Understands 900 words • Speech is 80% intelligible • Accurately produces: "p b h w m n g f"

This information about speech and language development in children is provided by Ministry Rehabilitation Services. If you have any questions about your child's development or would like a **free screening**, please call (888) 843-1367 to talk to a speech therapist.



Ministry Rehabilitation Services

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Saint Mary's Hospitals

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Three to Four Years

Age

36-48 mo.

Development

- Speech is very understandable
- Responds to "wh" questions (i.e. "what, who, whose, where, etc.")
- Asks "wh" questions
- Word order confused at times (i.e. "How old I am?")
- Asks a lot of why questions inappropriately
- May confuse irregular past tense (i.e. "I eated the cake" or "I hurted my arm")
- Vocabulary by end of age three to four is 1,000 words
- May have these sounds: "m n p b ng f h w y k g d t j s" and "th" and "r" emerging

Four to Five Years

Age

4-5 years

Development

- Understands opposites
- Can name four colors
- Can count one to 10
- Five plus words in a sentence
- May still need help with these sounds: "l, r, th, sh, ch"
- Vocabulary is 1,500 words

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