



Milestones checklist

Speech and language skills develop over time. Every child will develop at their own rate.

The checklist below also applies to children and families who speak more than one language at home (bilingual or multilingual children).

When a child does not develop one of the skills at the expected age, it does not always mean that there is a problem. When a child does not develop one of the skills at the expected age, it does not always mean that there is a problem. If you have questions or concerns about the child's skills, you can contact us. You do not need a doctor to refer.

4 to 6 months

Does the child:

- Babble and make different sounds (like pa, ba, mi)
- Make sounds back when you talk
- Turn their eyes toward voices and interesting sounds
- Enjoy toys that make music or sounds
- Respond to changes in your tone of voice
- Enjoy 'people games' like peek-a-boo
- Giggle and laugh

Call us if you feel concerned or if:

- The child is not doing most of the things in the above checklist.
- The child does not react to sounds.
- The child does not respond to your smiles.
- The child doesn't seem to enjoy playing games like peek-a-boo.

What you can do to help

- Take turns 'talking' and making eye contact.
- Point to and name things.
- Play 'people games' like peek-a-boo and sing songs or nursery rhymes.
- Respond to the child – if they make a sound, make a sound back.
- Use gestures like clapping, blowing kisses, waving.
- Read picture books with the child every day.
- Show the child you're interested in what they're trying to tell you and talk to the child throughout the day.