

Speech and language skills develop over time. Every child will develop at their own rate. This checklist outlines the ages at which *most* children will reach speech, language and hearing milestones. When a child does not develop one of the skills at the expected age, it does not always mean that there is a problem. But, if you answer “no” to most of the items at or below your child’s age, you should contact your local speech-language pathologist and/or audiologist.

**Birth to 3 months:**

Does your child:	YES	NO
• Soothe/calm to your voice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Sometimes startle when there is a loud sound	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Make cooing sounds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Have different cries for different needs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Smile at you	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**4 to 6 months:**

Does your child:	YES	NO
• Babble and make different sounds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Make sounds back when you talk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Turn their eyes towards voices and interesting sounds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Enjoy toys that make sound or music	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Enjoy people games like peek-a-boo	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**7 to 12 months:**

Does your child:	YES	NO
• Respond to their name	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Let you know what they want using sounds, or actions like pointing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Begin to follow simple directions, like “Where is your nose?”	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Pay attention when spoken to	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Wave hi/bye	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**12 to 18 months:**

Does your child:	YES	NO
• Use familiar words	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Enjoy looking at books with you	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Point to body parts or pictures in a book when asked	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Look at your face when talking with you	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Smile and laugh while playing with you	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**18 to 24 months:**

Does your child:	YES	NO
• Understand more words than they can say	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Begins to use two words together (e.g., more juice)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Ask simple questions (e.g., “What’s that?”)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Takes back-and-forth turns	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### **2 to 3 years:**

Does your child:

- |  | YES                      | NO                       |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Use sentences of three or more words most of the time                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Understand different concepts, like “in-on” or “up-down”                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Follow two-step directions (e.g., take the book and put it on the table) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Answer simple questions, like “Where is the car?”                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Participate in short conversations                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

### **3 to 4 years:**

Does your child:

- |  | YES                      | NO                       |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Tell a short story or talk about their day               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Talk in sentences with a few grammar errors              | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Speak clearly so people understand them most of the time | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Hear you when you call from another room                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Listen to TV at the same volume as others                | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Asks and answers many questions                          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

### **4 to 5 years:**

Does your child:

- |   | YES                      | NO                       |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Participate in conversation even when there is background noise | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Use rhyming words, and names some letters and numbers           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Communicate easily with other children and adults               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Listen to and retell a story                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| • Ask and answer questions about a story                          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |