



CHILDREN'S SPEECH, LANGUAGE & HEARING CHECKLIST

By 6 months – does the child:

- Startle to loud sudden noises?
- Smile or use other facial expressions to respond to familiar people?
- Coo, babble, and vocalize?
- Respond to his/her name and sometimes to “up”?

By 12 months – does the child:

- Try to imitate simple actions and sounds in turn-talking routines?
- Use a range of simple gestures, e.g. Points, waves bye, shakes/nods head?
- Vocalize to gain your attention?
- Understand a few simple commands when gestures are used, e.g. “come here”?

By 18 months – does the child:

- Communicate for different reasons, e.g. To protest, request things or to be social?
- Use at least 20 single words?
- Respond with words or gestures to simple questions, e.g. "Where's ball?"
- Follow simple directions, e.g. “show me your nose”?

By 2 years – does the child:

- Frequently try to interact and communicate with you?
- Have a vocabulary of around 100-150 words?
- Use 2 word combinations, e.g. “my hat”?
- Follow simple 2 step commands, e.g. “Get teddy and put him in the bed”?

By 3 years – does the child:

- Create sentences using five to eight words?
- Ask and answer simple questions (who, what, where and why)?
- Talk about past events and tell simple stories?
- Have a wide and varied vocabulary, e.g. labels, actions and description words, etc.?

By 4 years – does the child:

- Speak using almost adult-like grammar and pronunciation?
- Tell stories with a beginning, middle and end?
- Follow directions involving 3 or more steps?
- Listen to books as well as generate rhymes and match some letters with sounds?

No – to any of the age appropriate questions on this checklist indicates the need to refer to a Speech-Language Pathologist and/or Audiologist to have the child assessed.