

# Speech & Language Developmental Milestones

## BIRTH - 3 MONTHS

- Responds to environmental sounds
- Recognizes familiar faces
- Smiles at familiar people
- Coos/goos when happy
- Distinct crying for different situations

## 4 - 6 MONTHS

- Looks in the direction of sounds
- Responds to tone of voice
- Babbles with many different sounds
- Laughs and gurgles
- Expresses excitement & displeasure

## 7 MONTHS - 1 YEAR

- Turns & looks in the direction of sounds
- Listens to other's speech
- Recognizes common words
- Responds to simple requests
- Uses gestures and imitates speech sounds
- Uses 1 - 2 words

## 1 - 2 YEARS

- Points to body parts when asked
- Follows simple directions
- Understands simple questions
- Vocabulary increases every month
- Puts 2 words together
- Uses many different consonant sounds

## 2 - 3 YEARS

- Follows 2-step directions
- Listens to stories
- Uses 2-3 word phrases
- Understand simple opposites (stop/go)
- Speech is usually understood by familiar listeners
  - Names objects
  - Asks "why?"

## 3 - 4 YEARS

- Uses 3-4 word sentences
- Talks about events/activities that happened away from home
- Speech is mostly understandable
- Answers simple wh- questions
- Uses pronouns and plurals
- Speaks without stuttering

## 4 - 5 YEARS

- Understands sequencing and time words
- Follows complex directions
- Tells short stories
- Produces all speech sounds, may make intermittent errors on L, S, R, Z, V, SH, CH, or TH

**A child's communication skills develop rapidly during the first years of life. The following are speech and language milestones that most children experience. However, every child's development is unique and non-mastery of any one item within an age range does not necessarily signify the presence of a speech or language disorder.**

**If you are concerned about your child's development, contact Theralympic Speech, PLLC for a free phone screening**  
**[www.theralympicspeech.com](http://www.theralympicspeech.com)**  
**Tel: 631-240-3479**