



Speech and Language Development – Parent Checklist

Patient name: _____

DOB: _____

0-12 months old

0-6 months

- ___ Searches for speaker
- ___ Recognizes own name
- ___ Babbles
- ___ Vocalizes feelings through intonation
- ___ Frequently puts fingers, objects, clothing, pacifier into mouth for sucking and mouthing
- ___ Breastfeeding and/or bottle feeding
- ___ Starting soft, smooth solid foods
- ___ Cooing: vowel-like sounds

7-9 months

- ___ Self-feeds simple, finger foods
- ___ Babbles same sounds repeatedly (baba or mama)
- ___ Produces sounds which are similar to t,d,n,f,v,z,ch,j,th,sh and s
- ___ Makes sound while eating with food in mouth
- ___ Reaches for object and looks for caregiver's reaction
- ___ Tolerates smooth, lumpy solids fed by spoon by 9 months

10-12 months

- ___ Clears food off spoon with upper lip (eats lumpy, mashed foods)
- ___ Feeding self with fingers
- ___ Babbles using different sounds (nama)
- ___ Takes turns vocalizing
- ___ Will imitate others' vocalizations or gestures
- ___ Points/gestures and vocalizes
- ___ Participates in joint attention activities

1 ½ years -2 years

18 months

- Uses 10-20 words including names
- Combines 2 words (all done, Daddy bye-bye)
- Names at least 5 common items
- Responds to “yes/no” questions
- Follows simple, one-step commands
- Points to body parts on self when names
- Retrieves objects from another room when asked
- Understands at least 50 words
- Asks for “more” and “what’s that?”
- Drinks liquids from an open cup independently with limited spillage
- Swallows with lip closure
- Has precise up and down tongue movement
- Eats table foods (includes easily chewed meats and cooked vegetables)

24 months

- Has at least 100 words in vocabulary
- Frequently uses 2-word phrases
- Uses some 3-word phrases
- Is at least 25-50% intelligible to all listeners
- Follows simple 2-step related commands (may still require gestural cues)
- Drinks from an open cup and from straw without dribbling
- Bites through a variety of food thicknesses
- Demonstrates verbal turn-taking

2 ½ years -3 years

30 months

- Has approximately 450 words in vocabulary
- Gives own first name
- Answers “where” questions
- Uses present progressive -ing
- Uses “no” or “not”
- Consistently uses 3-4 word phrases/sentences
- Identifies simple objects by function
- Is 50-75% intelligible
- Shares toys and understands simple locations (in, under, out, off)
- Responds to greetings
- Uses pronouns (my, me, mine, you)

36 months

- Is 75% intelligible to all listeners
- Converses in sentences
- Has 1000 words in vocabulary
- Follows prepositional commands (on, next to, under, etc.)
- Follows simple 3- step related commands

- ___ Begins to use adjectives for color and size
- ___ Asks one-word “why” questions
- ___ Uses “what”, “where”, “how”, and “whose” when asking questions
- ___ Uses “in” and “on” when asked “where” questions
- ___ Begins to understand time concepts such as soon, later, wait
- ___ Chews and swallows majority of adult food

3 ½ years to 4 years

42 months

- ___ Uses regular plural –s (socks, shoes)
- ___ Uses possessive –s (baby’s bottle)

48 months

- ___ Consistently uses 4-5 word sentences, with correct sentence structure
- ___ Is 80% intelligible
- ___ Verbally relates a personal experience/story
- ___ Asks many questions including “who?” and “why?”
- ___ Uses regular and irregular past tense verbs consistently and regular 3rd person
- ___ Uses most pronouns
- ___ Has 1500+ words in vocabulary
- ___ Follows simple multi-step directions without repetition
- ___ Uses contractions (can’t, don’t, I’ve)
- ___ Identifies colors

5 years

60 months

- ___ Uses a variety of sentences with 6 or more words
- ___ Has greater than 2000 words in vocabulary
- ___ Uses most speech sounds correctly
- ___ Is 90-100% intelligible
- ___ Answers “how are things the same or different”
- ___ Can carry a plot when telling a story
- ___ Understands time concepts (yesterday, today, first, then, next)
- ___ Asks question to get more information
- ___ Inventive spelling when writing