

Speech and Language Development 0-36 months - Parent Checklist

Date completed _____

Child's Name _____ D.O.B _____

These developmental milestones show some of the skills that mark the progress of children as they learn to communicate. Check off those skills that your child is demonstrating on a consistent basis.

By 6 Months your child should:

- Turn towards sounds
- Make different cries for different needs, eg tired, hungry
- Smile and laugh in response to your smiles and laughs
- Watch your face when you talk
- Make different noises eg coo, gurgle

By 9 months your child should:

- Respond to his/her name
- Understand "no"
- Get what he/she wants by sound and gesture eg reaching to be picked up
- Play social games like 'peek-a-boo'
- Babble and repeat sound eg "babababa"
- Enjoy being around people

By 12 months your child should:

- Follow simple directions eg sit down
- Use at least three words
- Babble using lots of different sounds
- Shake head for "no"
- Draws your attention to an object by using gestures or sound and looking at you, eg looks up to the sky and points to a bird and then looks back at you

By 18 months your child should:

- Understand simple directions eg "put your hat on" or "go get the doll"
- Point to several body parts
- Understand concepts like "in", "off"
- Engage in pretend play eg giving a doll a drink
- Use at least 20 words
- Start to put two words together eg "Mommy bye bye"
- Make at least 4 different consonant sounds – b, n, d, g, w, h
- Respond to yes/no and "wh" questions eg "Do you want a drink?", "Where's the truck?"

By 24 months your child should:

- Use at least 100 words
- Consistently put two or more words together eg “bubble go up”
- Use at least two pronouns eg “mine”, “you”
- Enjoy playing with other children and start to imitate them
- Be understood 50% of the time by unfamiliar people
- Follow two-step directions eg “go get your car and put in the toy box”

By 30 months your child should:

- Use more than 350 words
- Say their name
- Use some adult grammar eg “two dogs”, “baby’s crying”
- Consistently use 3-4 words in a sentence
- Use action words (eat, jump) and pronouns (you, mine)
- Understand concepts such as big/little, and prepositions such as in, off, under
- Have complex play sequences eg put blocks in a truck, drive it, then dump them
- Produce 2-3 syllable words eg ba-na-na
- Take short turns with other children

By 36 months your child should:

- Use sentence of 4-6 words with adult-like grammar
- Be understood 75% of the time by everyone
- Follow long, complex directions
- Ask “wh” questions eg “what”, “where”
- Use adjectives for colour and size
- Use “in” and “on” when asked “where” questions

If your child does not meet **all the milestones** for their age, call the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Preschool Speech and Language System to refer your child for a speech and language assessment:

519 753 3153 ext 249 or 247

1 800 454 7186