



Normal Language Development Guideline

Age	Receptive Language	Expressive Language
Birth to 3 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Startles to loud sounds Quiets or smiles when spoken to Seems to recognize your voice and quiets if crying Increases or decreases sucking behavior in response to sound 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Makes pleasure sounds (cooing, gooing) Cries differently for different needs Smiles when sees you
4 to 6 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moves eyes in direction of sounds Responds to changes in tone of your voice Notices toys that make sounds Pays attention to music 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Babbling sounds more speech-like with many different sounds, including <i>p</i>, <i>b</i>, and <i>m</i> Chuckles and laughs Vocalizes excitement and displeasure Makes gurgling sounds when left alone and when playing with you
7 months to 1 year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enjoys games like peek-a-boo and pat-a-cake Turns and looks in direction of sounds Listens when spoken to Recognizes words for common items like "cup", "shoe", "book", "juice" Begins to respond to requests ("Come here" or "Want more?") 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Babbling has both long and short groups. Such as "tata upup bibibibi" Uses speech or non-crying sounds to get and keep attention Uses gestures to communication (waving, holding arms to be picked up) Imitates different speech sounds Has 1 or 2 words (hi, dog, dada, mama) around 1st birthday, although sounds may not be clear
1-2 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Points to a few body parts when asked Follows simple commands and understands simple questions ("roll the ball", "kiss the baby", "where's your shoe?") Listens to simple stories, songs and rhymes Points to pictures in a book when named 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Says more words every month Uses some 1-2 word questions ("where kitty?", "go bye-bye?", "what's that?") Puts 2 words together ("more cookie", "no juice", "mommy book") Uses many different consonant sounds at the beginning of words
2-3 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understands differences in meaning (go-stop, in-on, big-little, up-down) Follows two-step requests ("get the book and put it on the table") Listens to and enjoys hearing stories for longer periods of time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has a word for almost everything Uses 2-3 word "sentences" to talk about and ask for things Uses <i>k</i>, <i>g</i>, <i>f</i>, <i>t</i>, <i>d</i>, and <i>n</i> sounds Speech is understood by familiar listeners most of the time Often asks for or directs attention to objects by naming them
3-4 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hears you when you call from another room Hears television or radio at the same loudness level as other family members Understands simple "who", "what", "where", and "why" questions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talks about activities at school or at friends' homes People outside family usually understand child's speech Uses a lot of sentences that have 4 or more words Usually talks easily without repeating syllables or words
4-5 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pays attention to a short story and answers simple questions about it Hears and understands most of what is said at home and in school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses sentences that give lots of details (e.g. "The biggest peach is mine.") Tells stories that stick to topic Communicates easily with other children/adults Says most sounds correctly except a few like <i>l</i>, <i>s</i>, <i>r</i>, <i>v</i>, <i>ch</i>, <i>sh</i>, <i>th</i> Says rhyming words Names some letter and numbers Uses the same grammar as the rest of the family