

SPEECH & LANGUAGE MILESTONES

12 Months:

- Uses 3-5 words
- Understands 3-50 words
- Responds to his/her name
- Follows simple commands "Sit down"
- Waves hi/bye

18 Months:

- Uses 50-100 words
- Follows 1-step directions "Get the ball"
- Points to body parts or pictures when asked
- Communicates to request, comment and refuse

24 Months:

- Uses 200-300 words
- Understands new words quickly
- Understands words for objects out of sight
- Uses 2-word phrases "Mommy go"
- Follows directions to find familiar objects "get the book and the ball"
- Speech is understood by others 50% of the time

30 Months:

- Uses over 350 words
- Uses action words e.g., sitting, running
- Uses and understands questions about objects and people "Where's daddy?"
- Uses and understands pronouns (me, my, you)
- Tells simple stories with descriptions

36 Months:

- Uses over 1000 words
- Uses and understands location words (in, on, under)
- Uses and understands "why"
- Follows 2-steps directions "get your ball and put it on the table"
- Follows directions with modifier "walk slowly", "get the red car"
- Tell simple stories with a sequence of events
- Speech is understood by others 75% of the time

4 Years Old:

- Uses 4 words per sentence
- Uses and understands "when" and "how" questions
- Uses and understands size words i.e., big/little
- Begins to join sentences using "and", "because"
- Tells stories about past events
- Expresses ideas and feelings

5 Years Old:

- Uses a variety of words nouns, verbs, description words
- Understands most of what is said at home and/or school
- Joins sentences using "when", "if", "so"
- Uses words to invite other children to play
- Knows letter names and sounds
- Tells stories with a series of events and plot

6 Years Old:

- Uses description words
- Asks questions to get information
- Follows 3-step directions without help
- Understands opposites
- Retells simple stories
- Tells stories with beginning, problem, solution and ending



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