



TOTAL COMMUNICATION

SPEECH PATHOLOGY

Language Development Milestones

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| By 1 year | <u>Understanding</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understands simple commands (e.g., no, stop).• Recognises familiar names and words (mama, dada, ball).• Understands their name.• Recognises different sounds. | <u>Speaking</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Babbling.• Might have some simple words or approximations of words that might not be complete but that you understand.• Still using gestures more than words. |
| By 2 years | <u>Understanding</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Follows 2-part instructions (“give me the car and the book”).• Understands simple ‘wh’ questions (<i>what, who</i>).• Recognises several body parts (<i>eyes, nose etc.</i>)• Understands some prepositions (<i>in, on top</i>). | <u>Speaking</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 40+ words.• Simple 2-word combinations (“no ball”, “bye mummy”).• Mainly nouns and some simple verbs. |
| By 3 years | <u>Understanding</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understands more complex instructions (“give me the car and kick the ball”).• Understands basic concepts (<i>big/ small, same/ different</i>).• Recognises basic colours.• Understands basic categories (e.g., <i>can sort toy animals from toy food etc.</i>)• Understands more wh questions (<i>what, who, where</i>). | <u>Speaking</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Too many words to count.• Uses 4–5-word sentences.• Asks questions (<i>what, where, who</i>).• Uses different types of words (<i>nouns, verbs, descriptors etc.</i>) |
| By 4 years | <u>Understanding</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understands most ‘wh’ questions (<i>who, where, when, what, what happened</i>).• Recognises some numbers.• Understands complex instructions (<i>get the ball and put it under the chair</i>).• Begins to understand some letters and their sounds. | <u>Speaking</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Uses 5+ word sentences.• Uses joining words (<i>and, but, because</i>).• Can describe daily routines (bedtime, brushing teeth).• Asks lots of ‘wh’ questions.• Can name basic colours (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, black, white).• Uses personal pronouns (mine, yours). |
| By 5 years | <u>Understanding</u> | <u>Speaking</u> |



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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understands time related words (<i>before, after, now, later</i>).• Understands complex 3-part instructions (<i>wash your hands, get your coat, and wait by the door</i>).• Recognises <i>more numbers</i>.• Continues to recognise letters and their sounds. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tells simple stories with beginning, middle, end, timeline, and characters.• Uses well-formed sentences with different types of words and correct grammatical rules.• Uses simple past and future tenses (<i>went, will go</i>). |
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