

SPEECH STRONG

	Expressive Communication	Auditory Comprehension
0-3 months	Coos (vowel sounds such as “Oh” and “Ah,” vegetative sounds such as tongue clicks, burps, and coughs, reflexive smile	Reacts to sudden noises
3-6 months	Begins to babble such as “Baba” and “Tata”, laughs and smiles during interactions	Watches and tracks people, listens to speech, turns head to sounds
6-9 months	Grunts, whines, variegated babbling such as “Babida,” Attempts to match adult sounds	Understands “No”, reaches with arms up and waves bye-bye
8-12 months	Begins to say “Mama, Dada, baby,” Begins to jabber with speech like intonation	Begins to understand labels and commands
12-15 months	Uses facial expressions to communicate, uses 3-7 real words	Follows commands, understands 10-15 words
15-18 months	Uses words to label objects or people, uses inflection patterns when vocalizing, imitates environmental sounds such as “Beep, Vroom, Moo”	Uses gestures to request information from others, begins to point and/or retrieve pictures and objects upon request
18-21 months	Uses more words than jargon, uses 15+ words, imitates 2 word phrases such as “My ball, all done”	Understands 50+ words, begins to understand pronouns such as “You, me, my”
21-24 months	Names most common objects, uses 2 word utterances, imitates 3 syllable words or 2 word phrases containing 3 syllables	Understands big/little, understands words to inhibit actions
24-30 months	Begins to sequence ideas to describe remote events, asks yes/no questions, uses 50+ words, begins to use plural “s” and shortened auxiliary verb such as “Be, do, have”	Understands 250+ words, sits and listens for 10-20 minutes at a time
30-36 months	Tells first name, sustains conversation for several turns, names most pictures and drawings of familiar objects	Answers gender questions correctly, follows 3 step commands, begins to answer “Where” and “Why” questions, understands at least 2 relative concepts or comparisons

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	Expressive Communication	Auditory Comprehension
3-4 years	Relates experiences and tells about activities in sequential order, uses 900-1000 words, uses pronouns, asks “How, why, and when” questions, knows full name, name of street, and several nursery rhymes	Understands 4,200 words, understands common opposites such as day/night and fast/slow, appropriately answers “What if” questions
4-5 years	Uses complex sentences, uses 1,500-2,000 words, asks “Why” and “How” questions, tells long stories accurately, can give whole name, uses future tense	Understands time concepts such as “Early, morning, tomorrow,” by 60 months understands 9,600 words, begins to understand right and left
5-6 years	Knows complete address, uses present, past, and future tenses, can state similarities and differences of objects, can name days of the week in order	Understands spatial relations and prepositions such as “On top, behind, far,” comprehends 13,000-15,000 words by age 6, understands “First, last,” can answer “What happens if...?”

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