

MILESTONES: A GUIDE FOR YOUR CHILD'S SPEECH AND LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

This brochure is intended to provide simple milestones for speech and language development in kids. Each child, of course, has their own individual rate of speech development. This is not a test of speech and language success. The milestones in each age category are just guidelines for "normal" speech development.

If you have questions or concerns about your child, contact us at **271-0680 (Elmwood Avenue)** or **723-2140 (Latona Road)**. One of the many speech and language experts at the **Rochester Hearing and Speech Center** will be glad to listen to your concerns and advise you, if necessary.

Age Birth - 1 year

- Responds to voice and sound
- Attends readily to speaking voice
- Cries differently for pain, hunger and discomfort
- Coos and gurgles
- Smiles and laughs when spoken to
- Tries to imitate sounds (8 mos.)
- Produces many different consonant and vowel sounds (8 mos.)
- May say "mama" and "dada" (10 mos.)
- Uses strings of sounds that can resemble sentences
- Establishes joint attention with others

Age 1 - 2 years

- Follows simple instructions ("Sit down;" "Get your shoe," etc.)
- Recognizes parts of body when named
- Imitates familiar words
- Uses words to get needs met
- Combines two or more words (18 - 24 mos.)
- Uses 50 words (18 mos.)
- Uses around 200-300 words (2 years)
- Has mastered these sounds: p, b, m (18 - 24 mos.)

Age 2 - 3 years

- Is usually understandable to family
- Uses sentences of 3 - 4 words
- Begins to use pronouns such as "I, me, you," not always correctly
- Recognizes one color (30 mos.)
- Names pictures of common objects
- Responds to simple commands ("Put the truck on the floor")
- Uses question words such as "what" and "where" (24 - 30 mos.)
- Carries on "conversation" with self and toys
- Understands position words such as "in, under, on"
- Understands simple concepts such as big/little and now/later (24 - 30 mos.)
- Uses nearly 1000 words (3 years)

Age 3 - 4 years

- Follows two-part commands (36 mos.)
- Has mastered sounds: n, h, w, d, t, b, k, g, d, y, f, j (4 years)
- Uses sentences of 4 - 5 words or more
- Carries on simple conversations
- Uses question words such as "how," "why" and "who"
- Counts easily to 10

Age 3 - 4 years (cont.)

- Uses words such as "and" or "because" in sentences
- Says at least one or two nursery rhymes or sings simple songs
- Says full name
- May have word or sound repetitions when speaking
- Sits and listens to short stories
- Asks many questions

Age 4 - 5 years

- Is easily understandable to strangers
- Has mastered sounds: v, l, r, s, ch, sh, z
- Uses sentences of 6 - 8 words with usually correct grammar
- Can repeat phrases of four words or more
- Names all primary colors
- Enjoys pretend play activities, "I think," "I hope," "I wish"
- Can retell simple stories
- Understands opposites (dark/light, rough/smooth)
- Carries out a series of three simple commands
- Uses 1500-2200 words
- Can talk about events which are remote in time and space ("What would you do if _____?")

This information is provided courtesy of the **Rochester Hearing and Speech Center**

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