

LANGUAGE MILESTONES

It is important to monitor your child’s language development milestones right from birth. The following provides a general guideline for behaviours your child should be demonstrating by a specific age for healthy language development.

Birth to 3 months	Understanding Language		Using Language	
	Startles to loud noises	<input type="checkbox"/>	Makes reflexive noises such as coughing, burping and sneezing	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Appears to recognize parent’s voice by quieting or smiling when spoken to	<input type="checkbox"/>	Smiles when interacting with a parent or caregiver	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Turns head or seems to focus in response to sounds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Uses different cries to express various needs (e.g., hunger, fatigue, pain, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Makes cooing noises to express pleasure (e.g., long, vowel-like sounds)	<input type="checkbox"/>	

3 to 6 months	Understanding Language		Using Language	
	Looks in the direction of sounds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Giggles and laughs for pleasure	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Watches your face while you talk to them	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Responds to changes in tone of voice	<input type="checkbox"/>	Uses vocalizations to express content or discontent	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Pays attention to melody and music	<input type="checkbox"/>	Engages in vocal play (e.g., squeals, shrieks, raspberries, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Imitates facial expressions	<input type="checkbox"/>	Takes turns vocalizing with an adult	<input type="checkbox"/>	

This chart is meant for informative purposes only and is not a substitute for a speech and language assessment. If you have questions or concerns regarding your child’s speech and language development it is recommended you discuss this with your doctor or contact a local speech-language pathologist where you are living.