

DEVELOPMENTAL ORDER OF PREPOSITIONS



Prepositions are words that describe a relationship between nouns or pronouns. Early on children use these kinds of words to describe locations and directions of things. It is expected that certain prepositional terms be used in a child's vocabulary by certain ages.

PREPOSITION TYPE	AGE (in years; months)
Location	
In	2;0 – 2;6
On	2;6 – 3;0
Under	2;6 – 3;0
In front of	3;0 – 4;0
In back	3;6 – 4;0
Next to	3;0 – 4;6
Beside	3;0 – 4;6
On top	3;6 – 4;0
Between	4;0 – 4;6
Ahead of	5;0 – 5;6
Behind	5;0 – 5;6
Above	6;0 – 6;6
Direction	
Off	2;0 – 2;6
Out of	2;6 – 3;0
Away from	2;6 – 3;0
Over	3;0 – 3;6
Toward	3;0 – 3;6
Up	3;0 – 3;6
Down	2;6 – 5;0
Around	3;6 – 4;0