

Language Screener

Newborn– 24 Months

This checklist is used to help determine if child may have a language delay.

Directions: Go through the speech checklist for the child's age group and mark which milestones they are reaching. Please refer the child to Kids in Motion for an evaluation if a child cannot perform a majority of the speech milestones for their age group.

0-3 months

- _____ Makes eye contact
- _____ Has different cries for different needs
- _____ Coos, goos, and smiles
- _____ Turns head toward a sound source
- _____ Quiets to a familiar voice

3-6 months

- _____ Babbles with p, b, m sounds
- _____ Imitates sounds and facial expressions
- _____ Expresses feelings through voice
- _____ Reacts to loud, angry, and friendly voices
- _____ Recognizes own name

6-9 months

- _____ Babbling increases
- _____ Engages in back and forth communication
- _____ Uses gestures to communicate
- _____ Follows some routine commands
- _____ Looks at familiar objects and people when named

9-12 months

- _____ Says 2-3 words in addition to "mama" and "dada"
- _____ Imitates familiar words
- _____ Understands up to 50 words
- _____ Responds to simple directions (e.g. "want up", "come here")

12-18 months

- _____ Uses 20-25 words
- _____ Makes requests
- _____ Responds to questions
- _____ Identifies 2-3 body parts
- _____ Points to familiar objects and people in pictures
- _____ Responds to yes/no questions using head shake or nod.

18-24 months

- _____ Uses at least 50 words
- _____ Names objects in pictures
- _____ Begins to combine words
- _____ Expresses intent with words (e.g. "more" and "up")
- _____ Identifies 3-5 body parts
- _____ Understands more than 300 words



Language Screener

24 Months – 6 Years

24 months

- _____ Consistently uses 2-3 word phrases
- _____ Uses 200 words
- _____ Speech is 50% intelligible
- _____ Uses simple pronouns, e.g. “me”, “you”, and “my”
- _____ Expresses location, e.g. “in” and “on”
- _____ Follows 2-step directions
- _____ Understands basic nouns, pronouns, and verbs
- _____ Identifies body parts

4-5 Years

- _____ Produces 4-6 word sentences
- _____ Speech is intelligible to most strangers
- _____ Expresses the function of objects
- _____ Verbally relates a personal experience or story
- _____ Understands 10,000 words or more
- _____ Answers questions regarding short stories

30-36 months

- _____ Uses 400 words
- _____ Produces plurals, e.g. cats
- _____ Asks “what” and “where” questions
- _____ Most speech is understood by caregiver
- _____ Expresses “no” and “not”
- _____ Understands opposites, e.g. big/small, in/out
- _____ Understands basic concepts, including colors, space, time
- _____ Understands why questions

5-6 Years

- _____ Produces 5-7 word sentences
- _____ Retells a story
- _____ Uses more than 2000 words
- _____ Speech is 90-100% intelligible
- _____ Understands 13,000 words or more
- _____ Understands time concepts
- _____ Explains how things are same and different

3-4 Years

- _____ Uses 800-1500 words
- _____ Produces 4-5 word sentences
- _____ Speech is 80% intelligible
- _____ Follows 2-3 step directions
- _____ Understands 1200-2000 words



Pediatric Therapy Services

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