

It is important to monitor your child's speech and language development as well as responses to sound. The following provides a general guide to hearing and language milestones.

# HEARING



# AND LANGUAGE MILESTONES

## 3-4 years old

- Processes complex sentence structures
- Retells longer stories in detail – 5 or more sentences

## 2-3 years old

- Understands longer sentences
- Listens from a distance (in quiet)
- Follows directions that include 2-3 steps

## 18-24 months

- Listens to simple stories or songs
- Combines two or more words in short phrases eg "more food"

## 12-18 months

- Appears to understand some new words each week
- Follows simple spoken instructions, eg "get the ball"
- Points to people, body parts or toys when asked
- Continually learns new words to say although may be unclear

## 9-12 months

- Imitates speech sounds of others
- Understands simple words, eg "ball", "dog", "daddy"
- Turns head to soft sounds
- First words emerge

## 6-9 months

- Babbles, "dada", "mama", "baba"
- Shouts/vocalizes to get attention
- Will often respond to "no" and own name
- Responds to singing and music

## 3-6 months

- Turns eyes or head toward sounds
- Starts to make speech-like sounds
- Laughs and makes noises to indicate pleasure and displeasure

## Birth to 3 months

- Reacts to loud sounds
- Quiets to familiar voices or sounds
- Makes cooing noises
- Responds to speech by looking at speaker's face

If you are concerned about your child's hearing or speech and language development, please arrange to have your child's hearing tested.

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Hear now. And always

