

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

Third
Edition



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0-3 Months

Speech

- Undifferentiated cry
- Can make glottal and vowel sounds
- Some variety in non-crying sounds
- Produces single syllables
- Begins blowing bubbles
- Coos, gurgles, and sighs
- Begins to imitate some sounds

Interaction & Expression

- Comforts self with help
- Shows intense interest in familiar faces
- Briefly looks at people
- Follows moving person with eyes
- Quiets in response to familiar voice
- Smiles/coos in response to another smile/voice
- Cried differently when tired, hungry, or in pain
- Quiets when picked up
- Imitates some movements and facial expressions

Play & Movement

- Stares vacantly for long spells
- Hands are either clenched or open
- Reacts to paper or cloth on face
- Raises head when prone
- Will grasp object when placed in hand
- Reaches for object but misses
- Holds a toy for a short time

Meaning & Concepts

- Startles to loud sounds
- Moves eyes toward sound and light
- Fixes gaze on objects
- Briefly holds and inspects objects
- Mouths some objects
- Responds to voices
- Shows interest in sounds
- Watches faces intently
- Follows moving objects with eyes
- Recognizes familiar objects and people
- Begins to use hands and eyes together

3-6 Months

Speech

- Comforts self with help
- Shows intense interest in familiar faces
- Briefly looks at people
- Follows moving person with eyes
- Quiets in response to familiar voice
- Smiles/coos in response to another smile/voice
- Cried differently when tired, hungry, or in pain
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Interaction & Expression

- Fixes gaze on faces
- Imitates sounds
- Turns head at name
- Listens to voices
- Makes noise when talked to
- Seeks attention in ways other than crying
- Turns head toward a sound source
- Uses voice to show pleasure and displeasure
- Watches faces when people speak

Play & Movement

- Puts objects in mouth
- Watches hands
- Plays actively when propped in play area 10-15 minutes
- Looks intently at and shakes noisemaker
- generally inspects surroundings
- Smiles, fingers mirror image
- Increases activity at sight of toy
- Works for toy out of reach
- Head control established in midline
- Bangs with object held in hand
- Transfers object from one hand to another
- Rolls over both ways
- Raises head and chest when prone
- Sits with support

Meaning & Concepts

- Anticipates feeding upon sight of bottle
- Watches or closely attends to movement patterns
- Smiles on sight of face
- Recognizes spoon or bottle
- Laughs when playing with objects
- Turns head at name
- Begins to recognize words

6-9 Months

Speech

- Sounds m,t,d,b,p,y begin to appear in babbling
- Babbles tunefully - singing tones
- Uses wide variety of sound combinations
- Inflected vocal play - intonation patterns heard
- Imitates intonation and speech sounds
- Reduplicative babbling begins ("ba-ba-ba")
- Tried to make work-like sounds
- Responds to sound by making sound
- Babbles chains of sound

Interaction & Expression

- Initiates vocalizing to another person
- Enjoys being played with
- Recognizes familiar people
- Cries when parent leaves room
- Imitates familiar sounds and actions
- Shows interest in mirror images
- Responds to emotions of others
- Giggles and shows off
- Starts to show fear of strangers
- Smiles when smiles at

Play & Movement

- Explores toys with fingers and mouth
- Sits without support
- Drinks from cup
- Eyes and hands work well together
- Pulls self to standing position
- Crawls on belly
- Stands or cruises around holding on to something
- Drags a toy toward self
- Lunges forward or starts crawling
- Plays pat-a-cake
- Rolls both ways (front to back, back to front)
- Can support entire weight on legs
- Reaches with 1 hand
- Transfers objects from hand to hand
- Uses hand to rake objects
- Develops full-color vision
- Distance vision matures
- Ability to track moving objects improves

Meaning & Concepts

- Attempts to imitate gestures
- Understands parental gestures
- Looks at common objects when named
- Looks at family members when named
- Shows interest in pictures when named
- Searches for partially hidden objects
- Bangs objects together
- Performs many actions on objects (shakes, tears, slides, mouths, rubs)
- Sight of object or person produces gesture (emerging nomination)
- Explores with hand and mouth
- Reaches for objects that are out of reach
- Responds to own name
- Begins to respond to "no"
- Can tell emotions by tone of voice

9-12 Months

Speech

- Babbles with inflection ("ba-ba-ba," "ma-ma-ma")
- May acquire first true word
- Tries to imitate words
- Tries to repeat sounds
- Uses exclamations, such as "Oh-oh!"
- Uses most sounds in vocal play
- Vocalizes to mirror
- Uses low, non-rounded vowels

Interaction & Expression

- Affectionate with familiar people
- Begins affecting other's behavior physically (pats, pulls, tugs on adult)
- Begins to vary behavior according to reaction of others
- Cries when mother or father leaves
- Enjoys imitating people in play
- Entertains self in bed or at play
- Extends arms to be picked up
- May be fearful in some situations
- Participates in pat-a-cake, peek-a-boo
- Prefers mother and/or regular caregiver over all others
- Reaches to request an object
- Repeats sounds or gestures for attention
- Shakes head "no" and pushes undesired objects away
- Shouts or coughs to attract attention
- Shows preferences for certain people and toys
- Shy or anxious with strangers
- Tests parental responses to actions
- Throws tantrums
- Waves "bye"

Play & Movement

- Bangs 2 objects together
- Can bring one object above another
- Creeps on hands and knees
- Drinks from a cup
- Moves from sitting to crawling or prone
- Holds cup and drinks
- Holds crayon, imitates scribble
- Lets objects go voluntarily
- Places one block after another on table (prerequisite to counting)
- Plays ball with another person
- Pokes with index finger
- Pulls self up to stand
- Responds to music
- Stacks rings on pegs
- Stands momentarily without support
- Brings objects to mouth-uses tongue more
- Takes a few steps with help
- Takes objects out of container
- Throws or drops objects intentionally
- Uses pincer grasp
- Claps

Meaning & Concepts

- Begins to use objects correctly
 - Explores objects in many different ways
 - Finds hidden objects
 - Imitates gestures
 - Shows awareness of more than 1 object
 - Looks at correct picture when named
 - Pays increasing attention to speech
 - Responds to "no"
 - Responds to simple verbal requests
 - Responds to simple questions with searching movements
 - Turns head immediately to own name
 - Understands the meaning of hot
 - Gives block, toy, or object on request
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- Uses 1-10 words
 - Uses simple gestures, such as shaking head for "no"
 - Shows what he/she wants
 - Tries to communicate by actions or gestures
 - Communicates displeasure when object is removed

1-1.5 Years

Speech

- Uses sentence-like intonation (jargon)
- Some echolalia
- Uses most vowels and consonants
- Omits final consonants and some initial consonants
- Basically unintelligible, with exception of a few words
- Words produced with CV structure (ba/boat) emerge

Interaction & Expression

- Brings object to show an adult
- Requests objects by pointing or vocalizing
- Solicits action/assistance with gestures
- Learning words like bye, hi, thank you, and please
- Protests by saying "no," shaking head, moving away, frowning, or pushing object away
- Points and vocalizes to comment on actions, objects, and people
- Answers simple wh-questions with vocal response (may be unintelligible)
- Acknowledges speech of another by making eye contact or vocalizing
- Teases, scolds, warns, using gestures plus a vocalization or word approximation
- Imitates mom or other family member
- Asserts independence

Meaning & Concepts

- Follows simple, 1-step commands
- Points to recognized objects (emerging nomination)
- Points to wanted objects (emerging state)
- Begins to claim certain objects (emerging possession)
- Points to 1-3 body parts on command
- Identifies 2 or more objects or pictures from a group
- Notices others' emotions
- Follows simple directions accompanied by gestures
- Points to objects, pictures, and family members
- Begins developing receptive vocabulary
- Reaches for named object
- Easily learns associations between words and objects

- Uses 3-50 words
- Vocalizes with gestures
- Says, "All gone" (emerging negative)
- Answers question, "What's this?"
- Asks for "more" (emerging recurrence)
- Answers simple questions nonverbally
- Accurately imitates some words
- Says 2-3 words to label a person or object



Play & Movement

- Solitary or self-play
- Continual walking activities
- Begins running-stiff and awkward
- Removes mittens, socks, hat; unzips zipper
- Puts objects in and out of containers
- Learning to overcome some obstacles (opening doors, reaching high places)
- Imitates many actions and activates
- Carries and hugs dolls or teddy bears
- Shifts attention very rapidly
- Loves to jump and throw
- Scribbles with a crayon
- Loves to look at books and be read to
- Likes songs and rhymes
- Attends to a book or toy for about 2 minutes
- Likes big and little toys

Grammar

- 50% of all utterances are nouns
- Mean length of response is 1 or 2 words
- Average about 10 words in production
- Simple word combinations appear

1.5-2 Years

Speech

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Interaction & Expression

- Begins to show defiant behavior
- Begins using single words and 2-word phrases to command ("move"), indicate possession ("mine"), express problems ("owee")
- Demonstrates increasing independence
- Imitates behavior of others, especially adults and older children
- More aware of self as separate from others
- More excited about company of other children
- Much verbal turn-taking
- Names objects in front of others
- Says, "What's that?" to elicit attention
- Separation anxiety increases toward midyear and then fades
- Uses single words or short phrase to express intentions
- Ready for potty training

Meaning & Concepts

- Understands approximately 300 words
- Distinguishes food from other objects
- Follows simple instructions
- Imitates immediate events
- Listens as pictures are named
- Listens to simple stories
- Object permanence fully acquired
- Recognizes names of familiar people, objects, and body parts
- Responds to yes/no questions (head shake)
- Understands simple verbs, such as eat, sleep
- Follows simple commands without gestures

- Uses approximately 50 recognizable words
- Names many familiar objects
- Produces animal sounds or uses its name
- States toilet needs
- Says own name on request
- Says "no"
- Tells about immediate experiences
- Combines 2 words into phrases
- Begins to use some verbs and adjectives
- Asks for common foods by name
- Uses agent + action
- Uses invented words



Play & Movement

- Begins make-believe play
- Begins to sort by shape and color
- Builds tower of 4 or more blocks
- Pulls or carries toys while walking
- Climbs on and off furniture
- Finds hidden objects
- Kicks a ball
- Shifts attention less rapidly
- Likes to play with flexible materials, such as clay
- Little social give-and-take
- Parallel play - plays near others but not with them
- Scribbles
- Stands on tiptoe
- String beads
- Talks to self as he/she plays
- Turns over container to pour out contents
- Walks alone
- Walks up and down stairs with support
- Helps with simple chores

Grammar

- Begins to use pronouns such as mine
- Starts to use you and me
- Follows directions using 1 or 2 spatial concepts (in/on)
- Negative use in form of "no" ("No bed")
- Possessive emerging ("Daddy car")
- Refers to self with pronoun and name ("Me Tommy")
- 33% of utterances are nouns
- Combines 2 words into phrase (approximately 2 years) in noun + verb or noun + adjective format
- Mean length of response is 1.8 words
- Beginning sentence construction
- Often missing inflection