












COMMUNICATION MILESTONES

Birth to Three

	Receptive Language	Expressive Language	Social Communication
3 mos.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • startles to sounds • moves body in response to voice • attends to speaker's mouth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cries (becoming differentiated) • vocalizes two different cooing sounds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • seeks to make eye contact with an adult • smiles purposefully in response to caregivers face/voice • shows interest in people not objects
6 mos.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • turns head and searches for speaker • recognizes own name • stops crying/calms when spoken to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vocalizes in response to vocalization/singing • laughs • coos frequently; oo, oh, ah.(back vowels); ee, eh, ay (front vowels) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintains eye contact • smiles spontaneously to human contact • imitates a facial expression • tries to interact with an adult (directs vocalizations to people)
9 mos.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recognizes family member names • stops when told "no" • responds with gestures to common phrases: bye-bye, up, come • looks at pictures • stops when name is called 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protests with gestures and by vocalizing • babbles duplicated syllables (mama, dada) • imitates duplicated syllables • variety of sounds (h,m,b,p,t,d,n,w,f,v,y,k,g) babbles in burst with varying pitch 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • exchanges gestures with an adult • shows a desire to be with people • shouts to gain attention • enjoys social games • joint attention/gaze shift begin <p>Peek</p> 
12 mos.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • gives objects upon request • follows some routine directions • understands (give me w/ gesture) • looks at named objects • understands simple questions (eat, nite-nite, bye-bye) • points to two body parts • vocabulary of 40-50 words 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • says mama and dada meaningfully • imitates: consonant-vowel combinations (ba, ga, da) • -non-speech sounds (smacking lips, tongue clicking, cough) • -names of familiar objects • says one or two words 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • participates in games like peek-a-boo • waves hi and bye • points to objects to indicate awareness • extends arm to show object • uses gestures to get needs met 

	Receptive Language	Expressive Language	Social Communication
18 mos.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> vocabulary growing (understands 50 different words) follows two directions with one object finds objects not in sight 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses 15-20 meaningful words imitates words readily asks "What's that?" asks for "more" speech is 25% intelligible 2-word combinations (18-30months) <p>Nomination (that car) Recurrence (more juice) Negation-denial (no wee wee) Negation-rejection (no more) Negation-no-existence (birde go) Agent + Action (daddy kiss) Action + Object (push truck) Agent + Object (boy hat) Action + Location (go outside) Entity + Locative (bear car) Possessor + Object (daddy car) Entity + Attribute (water hot) Demonstrative + Entity (that train!)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> points, shows and gives objects to adults accompanied with vocalizations hands toy to adults for help 
24 mos.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> understands 200-300 words follows novel commands points to named pictures in books follows two step commands understands my, mine, yours, I 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses 50 different words word combinations begin to include more grammatical markers (ing, in, on, plural s) says own name pronouns me or my speech is 50% intelligible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shows an interest in being around other children pretend play with caregiver can participate in a conversation by responding to "what" and "where" questions for 2-3 turns
30 mos.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> understands the concept of one answers simple questions points to pictures in books vocabulary continuing to grow 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> refers to self as me or I uses no, uses 3 word phrases more grammatical markers emerging: irregular past -ed (walked) articles -a, the possessive s (Doggy's food) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> relates experiences about remote events vocalizes for all needs (less whining/gestures) 
36 mos.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> understands attributes of objects such as size and color identifies some objects by their function points to action words in pictures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> says first and last name uses simple sentences to relate ideas mastered the following sounds: h,n,m,w,b,p and all vowels grammatical marker: "is" responding to: "Who is eating?" "He <u>is</u>." "Dog big" becomes "Dog's <u>is</u> big." "Dog <u>is</u> barking." speech is 75% intelligible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> answers/asks wh-questions talks about interests and feelings enjoys pretend play (house, baby) 