

Your child develops language in different stages. Use this chart to find out how your child is progressing.

SPEECH, LANGUAGE & HEARING MILESTONES

for children

BIRTH TO 3 MONTHS

- Makes cooing sounds & different cries
- Startles to loud noises
- Calms to a familiar voice

7 TO 12 MONTHS

- Responds to his/her name
- Communicates needs by using sounds & actions (e.g. pointing)
- Begins to follow simple directions

18 TO 24 MONTHS

- Understands more words than he/she can say
- Says two words together (e.g. "More juice" "Mommy book")
- Asks simple questions (e.g. "What's that?" "Where kitty?")

3 TO 4 YEARS

- Can tell a short story or talk about what has happened during the day
- Talks in sentences with adult-like grammar
- Answers a variety of "who?" "what?" and "where?" questions

4 TO 6 MONTHS

- Begins to babble & try new sounds
- Enjoys repetitive games (e.g. peek a boo)
- Turns to sounds and/or music

12 TO 18 MONTHS

- Begins to use common & meaningful words (e.g. "Dada", "go")
- Points to body parts or pictures in books
- Looks to your face when talking and listening to you

2 TO 3 YEARS

- Able to use three or more words in a sentence
- Follows two-part directions (e.g. "Get your shoes and come downstairs.")
- Answers simple questions (e.g. "Where is the car?")

4 TO 5 YEARS

- Pronounces most speech sounds correctly
- Participates in and understands conversations at home and at school
- Can retell a story & ask and answer questions about a story



For further information about child language development, or tools and tips to help your child progress, visit bcaslpa.ca.