

RECEPTIVE LANGUAGE

Birth To 3 Months



Responds to voices
Smiles when smiled at
Startles to loud noises
Watches faces

3-6 Months



Knows familiar faces
Moves eyes in direction of sound
Responds to changes in tone of your voice
Closely attends to movement

6 Months – 1 Year



Associates gestures with words like "hi" and "bye-bye"
Recognizes words for common items like "cup", "shoe", "book", or "juice"
Begins to respond to requests (e.g., "Come here", "Want more?")
Looks at family members when named

1-2 Years



Points to a few body parts
Follows simple commands and understands simple questions ("Roll the ball", "Kiss the baby", "Where's your shoe?")
Points to pictures in a book when named

2-3 Years



Understands differences in meaning ("go-stop", "in-on", "big-little", "up-down")
Follows two requests
Listens to and enjoys hearing stories for longer periods of time
Knows prepositions "in", "on", and "under"
Knows sequenced routines

3-4 Years



Understands most sentences
Understands words for some shapes and identifies colors
Understands words for family, like brother, grandmother
Groups objects like toys, food
Follows 2-3 part directions
Recognizes most common objects

4-5 Years



Understands words for order, like first, next, and last
Understands words for time, like yesterday, today, and tomorrow
Follows longer directions, like "Put your pajamas on, brush your teeth, and then pick out a book."
Follows classroom directions

EXPRESSIVE LANGUAGE

Birth To 3 Months



Cries differently for different needs
Makes cooing, gurgling sounds
Smiles when sees you

3-6 Months



Repeats some vowel and consonant sounds
Exchanges sounds, facial expressions, or gestures
Chuckles and laughs
Vocalizes excitement

6 Months – 1 Year



Begins repetitive babbling
Uses vocal and non-vocal communication to express interest
Uses gestures to communicate (waving, holds arms up)
Imitates different speech sounds
Has 1-2 words at first birthday
Vocalizes to mirror

1-2 Years



Uses "my" or "mine"
Says more words every month
Uses some one or two word questions ("Where's kitty?")
Puts two words together ("more cookies", "mommy book")

2-3 Years



Uses two to three words to talk about and ask for things
Uses k, g, f, t, d, and n sounds
Speech is understood by familiar listeners most of the time
Often asks for or directs attention to objects by naming them.
Asks simple questions ("What's that?")

3-4 Years



Talks about what happens in the day
Answers simple "what?", "who?" and "where?" questions.
Asks when and how questions
Uses pronouns like I, you, me, we and they
Uses some plural words

4-5 Years



Responds to "What did you say?"
Names letters and numbers
Uses sentences that have more than 1 action word, like jump, play and get.
Tells a short story
Keeps a conversation going
Speaks clear enough for unfamiliar listeners to understand