

# Language Milestones

FOR MONOLINGUAL SPEAKERS



## 6 MONTHS

- Responds (e.g. smiles or gets quiet) when a familiar person talks to them
- Appears to notice a variety of sounds, noisy toys and music
- Starts vocal play- cooing and babbling during play
- Makes sounds like "boo," "pa," "di"

## 12 MONTHS

- Understands up to 50 words such as "shoe," and "cup"
- Communicates in order to: *make requests, refuse, comment and in communicative games*
- Vocal play includes longer strings of sounds together
- Imitates sounds
- Uses vocalizations and gestures to communicate
- Points to show items to others
- Uses about 1-2 words
- First words are often familiar people's names, familiar objects, in communicative games and about disappearance/reappearance or recurrence

## 18 MONTHS

- Understands a variety of words including for words that are not in view
- Understands simple questions such as "Where's Mama?"
- At least 24 words are expected
- The average vocabulary size is 50-100 words



## 24 MONTHS

- Pays attention to simple stories and when someone sings a familiar song
- Points to pictures in books when they are named
- Communicates in order to: *respond to questions, request information and acknowledge*
- The average vocabulary size is 200-300 words
- Two words phrases emerge
- Begins to use words more often than gestures
- Uses question intonation to ask "yes/no" questions

## 36 MONTHS

- Understands a two part direction such as "*go get a book and bring it to the couch please*"
- Understands simple "who," "what," "where" and some "why" questions
- Begins to make a conversational repair if the person they are speaking to doesn't understand
- Understands concepts such as opposites, "big" vs. "small"
- Communicates in order to: *talk about something not present, misrepresent reality (e.g. joking, purposeful inaccuracy), sequence a story and in play*
- Uses an average of 3 words per statement.

### Sources:

Kipping, P., Gard, A., Gilman, L., Gorman, J., Speech and Language Development, 2012.

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Paul, R., Language Disorders from Infancy through Adolescence. Mosby, 2001.

From ASHA: <https://www.asha.org/public/speech/development/01/>