

Analytic Speech & Language Developmental Milestones

1

Birth- 6 months

- Reacts to loud sounds by startling or turning toward the noise
- Makes cooing and gurgling sounds
- Smiles in response to voices
- Shows interest in faces and maintains eye contact
- Begins to recognize and respond to their name

2

6 - 12 months

- Babbles using repeated sounds (e.g., "ba-ba," "da-da")
- Uses different cries for different needs (e.g., hunger, discomfort)
- Understands simple words like "no" and "bye-bye"
- Starts imitating speech sounds and gestures (e.g., waving)
- Points to objects and people to show interest

3

12 - 18 months

- Says first words (e.g., "mama," "dada," familiar objects)
- Understands and follows simple directions (e.g., "Give me the ball")
- Uses gestures like shaking head for "no" or reaching for what they want
- Tries to imitate words and sounds
- Enjoys simple interactive games like peek-a-boo

4

18 - 24 months

- Has a vocabulary of 20-50 words
- Begins combining two words (e.g., "more juice," "big truck")
- Understands simple questions (e.g., "Where's your shoe?")
- Points to body parts when asked
- Engages in pretend play (e.g., feeding a doll, pretending to talk on the phone)

5

2 - 3 years

- Vocabulary grows to 200-500 words
- Uses two- to three-word phrases (e.g., "I want cookie")
- Follows two-step directions (e.g., "Pick up the toy and give it to me")
- Asks simple questions (e.g., "What's that?")
- Begins using pronouns (e.g., "me," "you," "mine")
- Speech is understood by familiar listeners most of the time

6

3 - 4 years

- Uses sentences of 4-5 words
- Tells simple stories and can talk about past events
- Asks more complex questions (e.g., "Why?" and "How?")
- Understands concepts like colors, shapes, and basic opposites
- Speech is understood by most people, even strangers
- Starts taking turns in conversations

7

4 - 5 years

- Uses sentences of 5-6 words or more
- Speaks clearly and is easily understood by others
- Uses more complex grammar (e.g., "He is running fast")
- Understands and follows multi-step directions
- Can answer questions about a story or event
- Begins to understand and use time-related words (e.g., "yesterday,"