

# THE CENTER FOR SPEECH EXCELLENCE

## Phonetic Development

<u>Age</u>	<u>Behavior</u>	<u>Examples and phonetic symbols</u>
Birth	-Crying	
1 week	-92% of front vowels present -7% of middle vowels present  -No back vowels present	<b>ee</b> as in me /i/, <b>i</b> as in it /I/ <b>er</b> as in earn /6/, <b>er</b> as in other /5/, <b>u</b> as in us /4/, <b>a</b> as in agree /1/ <b>ew</b> as in do /u/, <b>oo</b> as in cook /7/, <b>oa</b> as in oak /o/, <b>aw</b> as in off /9/, <b>o</b> as in on /a/
1 month	-Reflexive vocalizations -1/2 of vowels and few consonants	<b>a</b> as in add /q/, <b>e</b> as in end /2/, <b>u</b> as in us /4/, <b>i</b> as in it /8/, <b>ay</b> as in ace /3/, <b>ew</b> as in do /u/, <b>e</b> as in me /i/, <b>h</b> as in hat /h/, <b>c</b> as in cat and <b>k</b> as in kite /k/, <b>g</b> as in go /g/, <b>m</b> as in mouse /m/, <b>n</b> as in nice /n/
2 months	-vocal play and babbling -mental development begins -behaviors up to and including this level are derivative of chewing, suckling, and swallowing -Vowel distribution-front vowels, 73%; middle vowels, 25%; back vowels, 2% -Occasional diphthongs are heard -Consonants present	<b>m</b> as in mouse /m/, <b>b</b> as in bike /b/, <b>g</b> as in gos /g/, <b>p</b> as in pine /p/, <b>y</b> as in you /j/, <b>w</b> as in why /w/, <b>l</b> as in lime /R/, <b>r</b> as in ray /r/
3 months	-Sounds are added -Increased vocal play and babbling	<b>a</b> as in agree /1/, <b>ing</b> as in thing /a/
4 months	-Sounds added  -Vowel distribution-front vowels, -60%; middle vowels,	<b>t</b> as in time /t/, <b>v</b> as in van /v/, <b>z</b> as in zoo /z/, <b>th</b> as in thought /'/, <b>aw</b> as in off /9/, <b>oa</b> as in oak /o/

**Pamela H. Bashor and Associates**

Speech and Hearing Building, Suite 202, 320 Lillington Avenue, Charlotte, NC 28204, 704/375-5231

	-26%; back vowels, 14% syllable repetition	
5 months	-Syllable repetition -63 variations of sounds present	
6 months	-Lalling begins -Imitation of sounds -Vowel Distribution- front vowels, 62%; middle vowels, 24%; back vowels, 14%	
7 months	-Syllables and diphthongs continue to develop	
8 months	-Marked gain in back vowels and front consonants	
9 months	-Babbling peaks -Jargon (jabber) -Continued imitation of sounds -More back vowels, central vowels, and consonants appear	
10 months	-Invention of words -Continued imitation of sounds and words	
11 months	-First true word may appear	
12 months	-Vowel distribution-front, 62%; middle vowels, 16%; back vowels, 22%	
	-Consonants develop faster than vowels now	
	-Diphthongs continue to develop	
	-Better production of some sounds	
24-30 months	-90% of all vowels and diphthongs are learned -Mean length of utterance- three and one-half words -Articulation is intelligible 60% of the time -Front consonants continue to develop	
30-36 months	-All vowels are learned except -All rising diphthongs  -More consonants learned  -Articulation is intelligible	<b>er</b> as in earn / <b>ɛr</b> /, <b>er</b> as in other / <b>ɔr</b> / <b>i</b> as in I / <b>eɪ</b> /, <b>ou</b> as in house / <b>oʊ</b> /  <b>p</b> as in pig / <b>p</b> /, <b>b</b> as in boy / <b>b</b> /, <b>m</b> as in mouse / <b>m</b> /, <b>w</b> as in why / <b>w</b> /

	75% of the time	
	-Average word utterance is five	
36-54 months	-Some stops are substituted for fricatives	
	-More consonants learned	<b>n</b> as in new /n/, <b>ing</b> as in thing /a/, <b>y</b> as in you /j/, <b>t</b> as in time /t/, <b>d</b> as in dog /d/, <b>c</b> as in cat and <b>k</b> as in kite /k/, <b>g</b> as in go /g/
	-Mean length of utterance-6 words	
54-66 months	-More consonants learned	<b>f</b> as in feet /f/, <b>v</b> as in vine /v/, <b>y</b> as in you /j/, <b>th</b> as in thought /ʰ/, <b>th</b> as in the /;/, <b>l</b> as in lion /R/
66-78 months	-More consonants learned	<b>r</b> as in ray /r/, <b>s</b> as in see/s/, <b>z</b> as in zoo /z/, <b>ch</b> as in chew /tʃ/, <b>j</b> as in juice /dʒ/, <b>sh</b> as in ash /ʃ/, <b>z</b> as in measure /x/
	-The remaining middle vowels are learned as well as all centering diphthongs	
84 months	-All consonant clusters are learned, and articulation is completely normal; morphophonemic rules continue to age 12 years	

*Adapted from Clinical Management of Articulatory and Phonologic Disorders by Weiss, Gordon, and Lillywhite. Compiled by Pamela H. Bashor, CCC\_SLP and Michelle A. Leazer ©, 2002*