

RED FLAGS

- By 8 months:
 - Does not babble
 - Has no interest in peekaboo
- By 1 year:
 - Has no single words
 - Has no gestures, like waving or shaking head
 - Does not point to items or pictures
- By the age of 2
 - Does not follow simple instructions
 - Does not imitate actions or words
 - Does not know functions of objects (ex, spoon, brush, towel)
 - Does not use words to communicate
 - No word combinations
 - No consistent words
 - Difficulty understanding child's speech
- By the age of 3:
 - Omits initial consonants (i.e., 'bike'-'ike')
 - Unable to communicate in short phrases
 - Has little pretend play and/or limited play with toys
 - Cannot follow instructions
 - Little or no interest in other children
 - Poor eye contact
 - Unfamiliar listeners unable to understand child's speech
- Toddlers and School-aged Children
 - Child starts talking, is hard to understand, then stops.
 - Child leaves the ending off of many words.
 - Child lacks of variety of sounds produced.
 - Unable to understand even simple words.
 - Excessive drooling, difficulty eating, difficulty drinking from a straw, and difficulty imitating mouth postures (i.e., sticking out his/her tongue or puckering lips).
 - Child produces an s-sound with a lisp.
 - Child is difficult to understand, cannot express ideas logically or clearly.
 - Child cannot maintain a topic, even for a brief period of time.
 - Child starts talking about something, or sees something, and cannot move on to another topic.
 - Child has difficulty coming up with the names of items or people.
 - Child has difficulty answering "what," "where," "who," and "why" questions.
 - Child has difficulty talking about events, people, or things that are not in the immediate environment.
 - Child uses physical body language, rather than speaking to communicate with peers.
 - Child has trouble following directions.
 - Child has difficulty completing tasks independently.
 - Child has trouble making friends, entering a play circle, or expressing feelings.

LANGUAGE MILESTONES		
	Understanding (Receptive Language))	Saying (Expressive Language)
At the age of 3 months your child might be...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Startling to loud sounds Moving or turning his/her head or eyes towards sound 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cooing and gurgling Beginning to make some vowel-like speech sounds
At the age of 6 months your child might be...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smiling in response to people Responding to his/her name Recognizing familiar objects (i.e., "bottle") 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Babbling-saying strings of syllables with consonants and vowel sounds (i.e., bababa) Producing different cries to hungry, wet or tired
At the age of 9 months your child might be...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding 'no' Recognizing family member's names 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using a greater variety of speech sounds when babbling Changing the pitch of their voice while babbling Calling for attention
At the age of 12 months your child might be...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following simple one-step instructions Giving an object or toy upon request Identify 2 body parts Understand 'no' and 'hot' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using jargon-babbling that has the tones and patterns of real speech Beginning to imitate some real words Beginning to say their first words (~1-3 words)
At the age of 1 ½ years your child might be...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bringing familiar objects upon request Pointing to 3 body parts when asked Understanding "show me the..." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saying 3-20 true words by himself/herself Pairing pointing and sounds to ask for their wants/needs
At the age of 2 years your child might be...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding about 300 words Responding appropriately to yes/no questions Beginning to show interest in following short simple stories Searching with their eyes when asked "where is the _____?" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saying about 50 recognizable words Beginning to combine words into 2-word phrases (i.e., "more juice", "daddy go")
At the age of 2 ½ years your child might be...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding about 500 words Understanding the difference between 'big' and 'little'; 'hot' and 'cold'; 'wet' and 'dry' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saying about 200-300 words with understandable errors in his/her pronunciation Speaking clearly enough to be understood by at least some familiar adults

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following simple two-step instructions (i.e., 'get your coat and wait at the door') 	
At the age of 3 years your child might be...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding position words (i.e., 'in', 'on', 'under', 'up', and 'down') • Following complex two-step directions • Understanding 'one'-vs-'all' • Answering 'where' and 'what is ___ doing?' questions • Understanding 'yesterday', 'today', and 'tomorrow' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saying about 1000 words • Speaking in short sentences (3-5 words) that are not always grammatically correct • Carrying on short conversations • Briefly describing events • Asking 'who', 'what', 'where', and 'why' questions
At the age of 4 years your child might be	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following complex 3-step directions • Listening and attending to stories for about 15 minutes • Remembering details from a story • Enjoying simple, silly jokes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saying about 2000 words • Beginning to use longer more complex sentences (~4-7 words) • Beginning to use the past tense appropriately • Retelling recent events with a logical sequence • Answering 'what do you think will happen next?'
At the age of 5 years your child might be...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding long, complex verbal instructions • Understanding the numbers up to three • Identifying basic colors • Enjoying jokes and riddles • Understanding a variety of descriptive words (i.e., 'soft', 'tall', 'shortest', 'long', 'bottom', 'first') 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaking in complete, grammatically correct sentences • Asking about the meanings of words • Telling his/her full name, address, age, and maybe birthday • Enjoying rhymes and songs • Able to tell about the meanings of words • Explaining reasons for things