

# speech and language **MILESTONES**

*A month-by-month guide for families*

Remember, these are general guidelines. You know your child best, if you have concerns it is always best to seek out an evaluation by a speech-language pathologist.

- ✓ **12 MONTHS** – says 1-2 words, uses gestures (e.g., pointing, bye-bye), responds to simple words
- ✓ **15 MONTHS** – says 4-6 meaningful words, points to desired items, follows simple directions with gestures
- ✓ **18 MONTHS** – says 10-20 words, points to body parts, uses single words for wants (e.g., milk, up), understands even more
- ✓ **21 MONTHS** – vocabulary is growing quickly, often repeats new words, starting to combine words into phrases occasionally (e.g., more juice)
- ✓ **24 MONTHS** – says 50+ words, combines two words into phrases often, follows 1-step directions without support, understands simple questions
- ✓ **27 MONTHS** – puts 2-3 word phrases together regularly, names familiar objects, begins using pronouns (e.g., me, mine)
- ✓ **30 MONTHS** – vocabulary reaches 100+ words, speaks in short 2-3 word sentences, is understood by parents most of the time
- ✓ **33 MONTHS** – starts asking simple questions (e.g., what's that), speech is clearer, names things often
- ✓ **36 MONTHS** – says 200+ words, uses 3-4 word sentences, follows 2-step directions, strangers understand child around 75% of the time, enjoys pretend play and songs



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