

Communication Milestones



Birth – 6 months

Talking

- Birth – 3 months
 - Makes cooing sounds
 - Cries change for different needs
 - Smiles at people
- 4 – 6 months
 - Coos and babbles when playing alone or with caregiver
 - Makes speech-like babbling sounds, like “pa”, “ba”, and “mi”
 - Giggles and laughs
 - Makes sounds when happy or upset

www.asha.org

Hearing & Understanding

- Birth – 3 months
 - Startles at loud sounds
 - Quiets or smiles when you talk
 - Seems to recognize your voice
 - Quiets if crying
- 4 – 6 months
 - Moves eyes in the direction of sounds
 - Responds to changes in tone of voice
 - Notices toys that make sounds
 - Pays attention to music

www.asha.org



What should I do if I think my child has a speech, language, or hearing problem?

Hearing

- Worried about your child's hearing?
 - Contact an ASHA-certified audiologist.
- Audiologists can test your child's hearing. They test children of all ages, even babies. They can suggest ways to make your child's hearing better.

www.asha.org

Speech & Language

- Worried about your child's speech and language?
 - Contact an ASHA-certified speech-language pathologist, or SLP.
- SLPs help people who have problems with speech, language, and thinking skills. SLPs also work with people who have trouble feeding and swallowing. They can test and suggest ways to help your child.

www.asha.org

You can find SLPs and audiologists in:

- clinics
- colleges and universities
- home health
- hospitals
- industry
- nursing care facilities
- private practices
- public and private schools
- rehabilitation centers
- state and federal government agencies
- state and local health departments

www.asha.org

Herndon Speech-Language Hearing Clinic
Fort Hays State University
infoslp@fhsu.edu ~ www.fhsu.edu/csd
785.628.5366

Communication Milestones



7 months – 1 year old

Talking

- 7 months – 1 year
 - Babbles long strings of sounds, like “mimi”, “upup”, “bababa”
 - Uses sounds and gestures to get and keep attention
 - Points to objects and shows them to others
 - Uses gestures like waving bye, reaching, and shaking head no
 - Imitates different speech sounds
 - Says one or two words

www.asha.org

Hearing & Understanding

- 7 months – 1 year
 - Turns and looks in direction of sounds
 - Looks when you point
 - Turns when you call their name
 - Understands words for common items (e.g., cup, truck, juice)
 - Starts to respond to simple words and phrases (e.g., “No”, “come here”)
 - Plays games, i.e., peek-a-boo, pat-a-cake
 - Listen to songs and stories for a short time

www.asha.org



What should I do if I think my child has a speech, language, or hearing problem?

Hearing

- Worried about your child's hearing?
 - Contact an ASHA-certified audiologist.
- Audiologists can test your child's hearing. They test children of all ages, even babies. They can suggest ways to make your child's hearing better.

www.asha.org

You can find SLPs and audiologists in:

- clinics
- colleges and universities
- home health
- hospitals
- industry
- nursing care facilities
- private practices
- public and private schools
- rehabilitation centers
- state and federal government agencies
- state and local health departments

www.asha.org

Speech & Language

- Worried about your child's speech and language?
 - Contact an ASHA-certified speech-language pathologist, or SLP.
- SLPs help people who have problems with speech, language, and thinking skills. SLPs also work with people who have trouble feeding and swallowing. They can test and suggest ways to help your child.

www.asha.org

Herndon Speech-Language Hearing Clinic
Fort Hays State University
infoslp@fhsu.edu ~ www.fhsu.edu/csd
785.628.5366

Communication Milestones



One to Two Years

Talking

- Uses a lot of new words.
- Uses p, b, m, h, and w in words.
- Starts to name pictures in books.
- Asks questions, like “What’s that?”, “Who’s that?”, and “Where’s kitty?”
- Puts 2 words together, like “more apple,” “no bed,” and “mommy book.”

www.asha.org

Hearing & Understanding

- Points to a few body parts when you ask.
- Follows 1-part directions, like “Roll the ball” or “Kiss the baby.”
- Responds to simple questions, like “Who’s that?” or “Where’s your shoe?”
- Listens to simple stories, songs, and rhymes.
- Points to pictures in a book when you name them.

www.asha.org



What should I do if I think my child has a speech, language, or hearing problem?

Hearing

- Worried about your child's hearing?
 - Contact an ASHA-certified audiologist.
- Audiologists can test your child's hearing. They test children of all ages, even babies. They can suggest ways to make your child's hearing better.

www.asha.org

You can find SLPs and audiologists in:

- clinics
- colleges and universities
- home health
- hospitals
- industry
- nursing care facilities
- private practices
- public and private schools
- rehabilitation centers
- state and federal government agencies
- state and local health departments

www.asha.org

Speech & Language

- Worried about your child's speech and language?
 - Contact an ASHA-certified speech-language pathologist, or SLP.
- SLPs help people who have problems with speech, language, and thinking skills. SLPs also work with people who have trouble feeding and swallowing. They can test and suggest ways to help your child.

www.asha.org

Herndon Speech-Language Hearing Clinic
Fort Hays State University
infoslp@fhsu.edu ~ www.fhsu.edu/csd
785.628.5366

Communication Milestones



Two to Three Years

Talking:

- Has a word for almost everything
- Talks about things that are not in the room
- Uses k, g, f, t, d, and n in words
- Uses words like in, on, and under
- Uses two or three words to talk about and ask for things
- People who know your child can understand them
- Asks “why?”
- Puts 3 words together to talk about things
- May repeat some words and sounds

www.asha.org

Hearing & Understanding:

- Understands opposites, i.e., “go-stop”, “big-little”, “up-down”
- Follow 2-part directions, like “Get the spoon and put it on the table.”
- Understands new words quickly

www.asha.org



What should I do if I think my child has a speech, language, or hearing problem?

Hearing

- Worried about your child's hearing?
 - Contact an ASHA-certified audiologist.
- Audiologists can test your child's hearing. They test children of all ages, even babies. They can suggest ways to make your child's hearing better.

www.asha.org

Speech & Language

- Worried about your child's speech and language?
 - Contact an ASHA-certified speech-language pathologist, or SLP.
- SLPs help people who have problems with speech, language, and thinking skills. SLPs also work with people who have trouble feeding and swallowing. They can test and suggest ways to help your child.

www.asha.org

You can find SLPs and audiologists in:

- clinics
- colleges and universities
- home health
- hospitals
- industry
- nursing care facilities
- private practices
- public and private schools
- rehabilitation centers
- state and federal government agencies
- state and local health departments

www.asha.org

Herndon Speech-Language Hearing Clinic
Fort Hays State University
infoslp@fhsu.edu ~ www.fhsu.edu/csd
785.628.5366

Communication Milestones



Three to Four Years

Hearing & Understanding:

- Responds when you call from another room.
- Understands words for some colors, like red, blue, and green.
- Understands words for some shapes, like circle and square.
- Understands words for family, like brother, grandmother, and aunt.

www.asha.org

Talking:

- Answers simple who, what, and where questions.
- Says rhyming words, like hat–cat.
- Uses pronouns, like I, you, me, we, and they.
- Uses some plural words, like toys, birds, and buses.
- Most people understand what your child says.
- Asks when and how questions.
- Puts 4 words together. May make some mistakes, like “I goed to school.”
- Talks about what happened during the day. Uses about 4 sentences at a time.

www.asha.org



What should I do if I think my child has a speech, language, or hearing problem?

Hearing

- Worried about your child's hearing?
 - Contact an ASHA-certified audiologist.
- Audiologists can test your child's hearing. They test children of all ages, even babies. They can suggest ways to make your child's hearing better.

www.asha.org

You can find SLPs and audiologists in:

- clinics
- colleges and universities
- home health
- hospitals
- industry
- nursing care facilities
- private practices
- public and private schools
- rehabilitation centers
- state and federal government agencies
- state and local health departments

www.asha.org

Speech & Language

- Worried about your child's speech and language?
 - Contact an ASHA-certified speech-language pathologist, or SLP.
- SLPs help people who have problems with speech, language, and thinking skills. SLPs also work with people who have trouble feeding and swallowing. They can test and suggest ways to help your child.

www.asha.org

Herndon Speech-Language Hearing Clinic
Fort Hays State University
infoslp@fhsu.edu ~ www.fhsu.edu \ csd
785.628.5366

Communication Milestones



Four to Five Years

Talking:

- Says all speech sounds in words. May make mistakes on sounds that are harder to say, like l, s, r, v, z, ch, sh, and th.
- Responds to “What did you say?”
- Talks without repeating sounds or words most of the time.
- Names letters and numbers.
- Uses sentences that have more than 1 action word, like jump, play, and get. May make some mistakes, like “Zach gots 2 video games, but I got one.”
- Tells a short story.
- Keeps a conversation going.
- Talks in different ways, depending on the listener and place. Your child may use short sentences with younger children. He may talk louder outside than inside.

www.asha.org



Hearing & Understanding:

- Understands words for order, like first, next, and last.
- Understands words for time, like yesterday, today, and tomorrow.
- Follows longer directions, like “Put your pajamas on, brush your teeth, and then pick out a book.”
- Follows classroom directions, like “Draw a circle on your paper around something you eat.”
- Hears and understands most of what she hears at home and in school.

www.asha.org

What should I do if I think my child has a speech, language, or hearing problem?

Hearing

- Worried about your child's hearing?
 - Contact an ASHA-certified audiologist.
- Audiologists can test your child's hearing. They test children of all ages, even babies. They can suggest ways to make your child's hearing better.

www.asha.org

You can find SLPs and audiologists in:

- clinics
- colleges and universities
- home health
- hospitals
- industry
- nursing care facilities
- private practices
- public and private schools
- rehabilitation centers
- state and federal government agencies
- state and local health departments

www.asha.org

Speech & Language

- Worried about your child's speech and language?
 - Contact an ASHA-certified speech-language pathologist, or SLP.
- SLPs help people who have problems with speech, language, and thinking skills. SLPs also work with people who have trouble feeding and swallowing. They can test and suggest ways to help your child.

www.asha.org

Herndon Speech-Language Hearing Clinic
Fort Hays State University
infoslp@fhsu.edu ~ www.fhsu.edu/csd
785.628.5366