

COMMUNICATION & LANGUAGE

What to look for *ages birth - 1*

As your child progresses through the stages of communication and language development, they'll perform actions, make noises, speak, and express themselves based on the cognitive and motor skills they learn, as well as how they experience the world around them.

Here are a few ways you'll notice these developments as they happen:

birth - 3 *months*

- Startles at loud noises
- Smiles when interacting with a parent or care giver
- Recognizes and is soothed by voice of a parent or care giver
- Makes eye contact

3-6 *months*

- Looks in the direction of sounds
- Pays attention to melody and music
- Makes different sounds to express different feelings
- Giggles and laughs

6-9 *months*

- Enjoys games like peek-a-boo and pat-a-cake
- Recognizes familiar words and their own name
- Imitates simple actions like banging a drum, waving, clapping
- Shows interest in books by looking, touching and handling, and mouthing

9-12 *months*

- Understands 3-50 words
- Enjoys songs and rhythms
- Uses a variety of sounds in babbling or with words
- Prefers certain stories and recognizes pictures in books

1 *year*

- Follows one-step directions
- Uses one- to two-word phrases
- Vocabulary includes nouns, verbs, social words, rejection words, and words that are part of games
- Identifies common or familiar objects in books when asked



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