



Stages of Normal Communication Development

Age	Communication Milestone
0–6 months	Startled by loud sounds; soothed by mother's voice
6–8 months	Begins to babble (<i>bababababa</i>)
9 months	Responds to own name
12 months	First spoken word; understands simple words and sounds
15 months	Sounds as though "talking" when jabbering, with some real words interspersed
18 months	50-word spoken vocabulary; beginning of word combinations; able to identify body parts
24 months	Spoken vocabulary of 200+ words; uses many beginning sentences; follows simple directions
2–3 years	Enjoys being read to; points to pictures when asked; refers to self by name
3 years	Understands and uses simple verbs, pronouns, prepositions, and adjectives, such as <i>go</i> , <i>me</i> , <i>in</i> , and <i>big</i> ; uses complete sentences much of the time
4 years	Able to give a connected account of some recent experiences; able to carry out a sequence of two directions
5 years	Able to carry on a conversation with adults; sentence structure mostly matches the patterns of child's family; speech is intelligible, with a few mispronounced sounds

For questions or additional information:

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