# Speech and Language Development Checklist

**How to use this checklist:** At each immunization or well-baby visit, ask the parents the appropriate questions. If a child is missing one or more of the developmental milestones, please refer parents to Language Express. **DON'T WAIT AND SEE!** Anyone can make the referral with parental consent. Call 1-888-503-8885 or use the age-specific referral checklists available on our website. Our office can provide you with brochures to give to parents.

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<tr>
<th>Child's Name: __________________________</th>
<th>Date of Birth: __________________________</th>
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## 3 months

- Cries and grunts; has different cries for different needs
- Makes a lot of cooing and goosing sounds
- Responds to parent/caregiver voice
- Takes a turn by looking, waiting, and making facial expressions during singing and tickling games
- Turns toward sounds
- Stardled by loud or sudden noises
- Responds when name is called
- Babbling
- Recognizes familiar faces and objects
- Enjoys games like "peek-a-boo"
- Reaches for, holds, and puts toys in mouth
- Smiles and laughs in response to parents' smiles and laughter

## 6 months

- Uses 3 to 5 different words
- Follows simple instructions; i.e., "Sit down", "Don't touch"
- Understands "no," and simple requests “Where is your ball?”
- Imitates sounds ("Whee!", "ah-oh!") and actions (wave, head shake)
- Gets attention by looking at your eyes while using sounds, pointing, bringing things to show you
- Tries to sing along with music

## 12 months

- Follows simple instructions (i.e., Show me the… Give me the…)
- Points to 3 body parts upon request (i.e., eyes, nose, mouth)
- Understands more words than she can say
- Uses at least 20 words consistently; words do not have to be clear i.e., “Mama” or “ba” for “ball”
- Says “No”
- Asks for something by pointing and using sounds or words (points to cookie and says, “num num”)

## 18 months

- Uses 100-150 words and combines two to four words in phrases (e.g., “moe tee” for “more cheese,” “Truck go down.”)
- Follows 2-step instructions: “Go find your teddy and show it to Grandma.”
- Answers questions correctly with "yes" or "no"
- Begins to offer toys to other children and to imitate other children
- Uses many different speech sounds at beginning of words (p,b,m,t,d,n,h,w)
- Asks “What’s that?” and “Where?”

## 2 years

- Uses more than 350 words
- Understands words that describe (hot, big, little, sticky, wet, a little, a lot, more)
- Uses "I," "You," "Me" and "Mine"
- Uses some adult grammar: "Two cookies," "Bird flying," "Daddy's car."
- Enjoys being around other children and takes short turns with them
- Uses words to answer "What" and "Where" questions ("What is he/she doing?" "Where’s the baby?")
- Remembers and understands familiar stories

## 30 months

- Understands same/different, one/all, heavy, night/day
- Enjoys pretend play and playing with other children
- Talks about something that happened in the past (e.g., trip to Grandma’s)
- Says 4-7 words in a sentence "I want my red ball"
- Understands and asks "Who?" "What?" "Where?" and "Why?" questions
- Adults outside of family understand at least half of what child says

## 3 years

- Follows three-step instructions; i.e., “Get your boots, put them on and go outside.”
- Tells stories with a clear beginning, middle, and end, and can anticipate what will happen next in a story
- Uses adult-type grammar
- Starts a conversation and keeps it going on the same topic for three turns
- Answers "Who?" "How?" and "How many?" questions
- Says the following sounds correctly in words: k,y,f,g,d,t

## 4 years

- Follows three-step instructions; i.e., “Get your boots, put them on and go outside.”
- Tells stories with a clear beginning, middle, and end, and can anticipate what will happen next in a story
- Uses adult-type grammar
- Starts a conversation and keeps it going on the same topic for three turns
- Answers "Who?" "How?" and "How many?" questions
- Says the following sounds correctly in words: k,y,f,g,d,t

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* *MCHAT – Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers can be downloaded from: http://www2.gsu.edu/~psydlr/M-CHAT/Official_M-CHAT_Website_files/M-CHAT-R_F.pdf

Language Express Preschool Speech and Language accepts referrals for children from birth until January of the year they turn 5. The program is funded by the Government of Ontario – Ministry of Children and Youth Services. Language Express offers free service to all families.

For more information call: 1-888-503-8885 or visit: http://www.language-express.ca.