

## Language Milestones for the Typical Developing Child

	Domain	18-23 Months	2-3 Years	3-4 Years	4-5 Years	5-6 Years
<b>Receptive Language</b>	<b>Books /Rhymes /Songs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enjoys being read rhymes, songs</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enjoys poems and recognizes language absurdities such as, "Is that an elephant on your head?"</li> </ul>		
	<b>Name</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recognizes name</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can hear that their name when called from another room</li> </ul>		
	<b>Words</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understands "no"</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knows about 50 words at 24 months</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understands more than 2,000 words</li> </ul>
	<b>Verbs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understands simple verbs</li> </ul>				
	<b>Colours</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifies colors</li> </ul>		
	<b>Commands</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follows Simple Commands (no gestures) e.g. "Touch the bunny"</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follows two step commands e.g. "Get the toy and put it in the basket"</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carries out a series of three directions</li> </ul>
	<b>Questions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Points to simple body parts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Points to 5-6 parts of a doll when asked</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understands simple who/what /where questions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understands complex questions.</li> </ul>	
	<b>Descriptive Words</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Knows descriptive words such as "big", "happy"</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understands spatial concepts such as "behind," "next to."</li> </ul>	

<p><b>Expressive Language</b></p>	<p><b>Sounds</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pronounces most vowels and n, m, o, h</li> <li>• Makes animal sounds</li> <li>• Beginning to use other speech sounds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• m, p, w, t</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• b, d, y, h, k, g, f</li> <li>• Uses most speech sounds but may distort some of the more difficult sounds such as <i>l, r, s, sh, ch, y, v, z, th</i> (these sounds may not be fully mastered until age 7 or 8)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• s, sh, j, ch, z, v, l</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• r</li> <li>• Difficulty with “r”, “v” and “th” sounds</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Words</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Imitates familiar words</li> <li>• Says 8-10 words</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Says 40 words at 24 months</li> <li>• Uses word “more”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses consonants in the beginning, middle, and ends of words. Some of the more difficult consonants may be distorted, but attempts to say them.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Says 200 - 300 different words</li> <li>• Defines words</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Nouns</b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of plurals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses some plurals (cars, dogs, cats)</li> </ul>		
	<p><b>Verbs</b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses past tense verbs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses verbs that end in "ing," such as walking," "talking."</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses some irregular past tense verbs such as "ran," "fell."</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Pronouns</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beginning to use pronouns such as mine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of more pronouns such as “I” and “You”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses pronouns (I, you, me, we, they)</li> </ul>		

	<b>Sentences</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Combines two words e.g. “bus push”, “daddy bye - bye”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Speaks two or three word phrases</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Repeats sentences</li> <li>• Uses three word sentences</li> <li>• Can combine 4 or more words</li> <li>• Can tell a story</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describes how to do things such as painting a picture</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sentences can be 8 or more words in length</li> <li>• Uses compound and complex sentences e.g. “We went to the store and then had to go home because it was raining.”</li> <li>• Describes objects</li> </ul>
	<b>Questions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asks for common foods by names</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asks “What’s that?” and “Where’s my...?”</li> <li>• Answers “where” questions</li> <li>• Answers simple questions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answers simple questions such as "What do you do when you are hungry?"</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answers "why" questions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can answer questions about a story that is read to them</li> </ul>
	<b>Prosody</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses inflection to ask for something</li> </ul>			
	<b>Singing</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hums or tries to sing</li> </ul>			

	<b>Other</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recognizes sounds like the telephone, doorbell ringing etc.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Strangers are able to understand much of what is said</li><li>• Has fun with language</li><li>• Expresses ideas and feelings rather than just talking about the world around him or her</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Speech is understandable but makes mistakes pronouncing long, difficult, or complex words such as "hippopotamus."</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Engages in conversation</li></ul>
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