

Early Language Development

From 6 months – 12 months your child will:

- Begin babbling (e.g. 'ma-ma-ma-ma')
- Make noises to get your attention
- Recognise and respond to their name
- Understand some simple, familiar words (e.g. 'mum', 'dad', 'no', 'ball',) and requests (e.g. 'give to mummy')

From 1 – 2 years your child will:

- Say their first word
- Imitate simple words
- Develop a vocabulary of at least 50 words by 24 months
- Identify some body parts
- Begin to use two words together (e.g. 'more juice')

From 2 – 3 years your child will:

- Understand two-step instructions (e.g. 'get the car and the ball')
- Learn new words rapidly
- Use 3 and more word sentences
- Understand concepts like 'in', 'on', 'big', 'small' etc)
- Engage in longer conversations

From 3 – 4 years your child will:

- Understand most of what you say to them
- Use long sentences
- Be understood by most people without much difficulty
- Engage in long back and forth conversations

From 4 – 5 years your child will:

- Understand and enjoy short stories, and answer simple questions about their content
- Use lengthy and highly detailed sentences, and build stories about both real and imagined events