

**SPEECH-LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT**  
**BIRTH - 5 YEARS**

AGE	TALKING	UNDERSTANDING
Birth - 3 Months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Makes pleasure sounds (cooing, going)</li> <li>✓ Cries differently for different needs</li> <li>✓ Smiles when he/she sees you</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Quiets or smiles when spoken to</li> <li>✓ Seems to recognize your voice and quiets if crying</li> </ul>
4-6 Months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Babbling sounds are more speech-like with many different sounds, including p, b, and m</li> <li>✓ Vocalizes excitement and displeasure</li> <li>✓ Making gurgling sounds when left alone and when playing with you</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Responds to changes in tone of your voice</li> <li>✓ Notices toys that make noise</li> <li>✓ Pays attention to music</li> </ul>
7 Months - 1 Year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Babbling both long and short groups of sounds such as "tata upup bibibibi"</li> <li>✓ Uses speech or non-crying sounds to get and keep attention</li> <li>✓ Imitates different speech sounds</li> <li>✓ Has 1 or 2 words, although they might not be clear</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Enjoys games like peek-a-boo and pat-a-cake</li> <li>✓ Listens when spoken to</li> <li>✓ Recognizes words for common items</li> <li>✓ Begins to respond to requests</li> </ul>

<p>1-2 Years</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Says more words every month</li> <li>✓ Uses some 1-2 word questions (i.e. "ball?", "go bye-bye?")</li> <li>✓ Puts 2 words together (i.e. "more juice," "my ball")</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Points to a few body parts when asked</li> <li>✓ Follows simple commands</li> <li>✓ Understands simple questions</li> <li>✓ Listens to stories, songs and rhymes</li> <li>✓ Points to pictures in a book when named</li> </ul>
<p>2-3 Years</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Has a word for almost everything</li> <li>✓ Uses 2-3 word sentences to talk about and ask for things</li> <li>✓ Speech is understood by familiar listeners most of the time</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Understands differences in meaning</li> <li>✓ Follows simple 2-step commands</li> </ul>
<p>3-4 Years</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Talks about activities at school or at friend's homes</li> <li>✓ People outside the family usually understand child's speech</li> <li>✓ Uses a lot of sentences that have 4 or more words</li> <li>✓ Usually talks easily without repeating syllables or words</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Understands simple "Who?," "What?," "Where?," "Why?" questions</li> </ul>

4-5 Years

- ✓ Voice sounds clear like other children's
- ✓ Uses sentences that gives a lot of details
- ✓ Tells stories and stays on topic
- ✓ Communicates easily with other children and adults
- ✓ Says most sounds correctly (except for a few sounds like, l, s, r, v, z, ch, sh, th)
- ✓ Uses the same grammar as the rest of the family

- ✓ Pays attention to a short story and answers simple questions
- ✓ Understands most of what is said at home and at school



## ACTIVITIES TO ENCOURAGE SPEECH AND LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT BIRTH TO 2 YEARS

- ✚ Encourage your baby to make vowel-like and consonant-vowel sounds such as “ma,” “da,” and “ba.”
- ✚ Reinforce attempts by maintaining eye contact, responding with speech, and imitating vocalizations using different patterns and emphasis. For example, raise the pitch of your voice to indicate a question.
- ✚ Imitate your baby’s laughter and facial expressions.
- ✚ Teach your baby to imitate your actions, including clapping your hands, throwing kisses, and playing finger games such as pat-a-cake, peek-a-boo, and the itsy-bitsy-spider.
- ✚ Talk as you bathe, feed, and dress your baby. Talk about what you are doing, where you are going, what you will do when you arrive, and who and what you will see.
- ✚ Identify colors. Count items.
- ✚ Use gestures such as waving goodbye to help convey meaning.
- ✚ Introduce animal sounds to associate a sound with a specific meaning: “The doggie says woof-woof.”
- ✚ Acknowledge the attempt to communicate.
- ✚ Expand on single words your baby uses: “Here is Mama. Mama loves you. Where is baby? Here is baby.”
- ✚ Read to your child. Sometimes “reading” is simple describing the pictures in a book without following the written words. Choose books that are sturdy and have large colorful pictures that are not too detailed. Ask your child, “What’s this?” and encourage naming and pointing to familiar objects in the book.



ACTIVITIES TO ENCOURAGE  
SPEECH AND LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT  
2 TO 4 YEARS

- ★ Use good speech that is clear and simple for your child to model.
- ★ Repeat what your child says indicating that you understand. Build and expand on what was said. "Want juice? I have juice. I have apple juice. Do you want apple juice?"
- ★ Use baby talk only if needed to convey the message and when accompanied by the adult word. "It is time for din-din. We will have dinner now."
- ★ Make a scrapbook of favorite or familiar things by cutting out pictures. Group them into categories, such as things to ride on, things to eat, things for dessert, fruits, and things to play with. Create silly pictures by mixing and matching pictures. For example, glue a picture of a dog behind a wheel of a car. Talk about what is wrong with the picture and ways to "fix" it. Count items pictured in the book.
- ★ Help your child understand and ask questions. Play the yes-no game. Ask questions such as "Are you a boy?" "Are you Marty?" "Can a pig fly?" Encourage your child to make up questions and try to fool you.
- ★ Ask questions that require a choice. "Do you want an apple or an orange?" "Do you want to wear your red or blue shirt?"
- ★ Expand vocabulary. Name body parts, and identify what you do with them. "This is my nose. I can smell flowers, brownies, popcorn, and soap."
- ★ Sing simple songs and recite nursery rhymes to show the rhythm and pattern of speech.
- ★ Place familiar objects in a container. Have your child remove the object and tell you what it is called and how to use it. "This is my ball. I bounce it. I play with it."
- ★ Use Photographs of familiar people and places, and retell what happened or make-up a story.



ACTIVIDADES PARA ANIMAR  
EL DESARROLLO DE DISCURSO Y DE LENGUAJE  
DE NACIMIENTO A DOS AÑO

- Anime a sus bebe que hagan sonidos vocal-como y de la consonante-vocal, por ejemplo: "ma", "da", y "ba"
- Refuerza tentativas manteniendo el contacto visual, respondiendo con discurso, y limitando vocalizacion usando diversos partones y enfasis por ejemplo levante la echada de su voz para indicar una pregunta.
- Imitar la risa y las expresiones faciales de sus bebe.
- Enseña su bebe a imitar sus acciones, incluyendo aplaudir sus manos, lanzar besos, y jugar juegos con los dedos por ejemplo: pat-a-cake, peek-a-boo, y itsy-bitsy-spider.
- Hable cuando usted baña, alimenta, y usted viste a su bebe, hable de lo que esta haciendo, donde va, que usted hara cuando llegue, y quien y lo que usted va ver.
- Identifique colores. Contar articulos.
- Use gestos como agitar "adios" para ayudar a transportar el significado.
- Introduzca los sonidos de animales para asociar el sonido a un significado especifico: "el perro dice woof-woof"
- Muestre la tentativa de comunicarse.
- Amplie en solas palabras sus aplicaicones del bebe: "aqui esta mama", "mama te quiere", "donde esta el bebe?", "aqui esta el bebe"
- Lee el bebe. Aveses "leindo" o simplemente describiendo las imagines en su libro sin seguir las palabras escritas. Elige libros que sean robustos y que tengan imagines grandes coloridas y que no sean demasiadas detalladas. Pregunte a su bebe, "que es esto?" Y anime el nombramiento y señalar a los objetos familiares en el libro.



ACTIVIDADES PARA ANIMAR  
EL DESARROLLO DE DISCURSO Y DE LENGUAJE  
DOS A CUATRO AÑOS

- Use el buen discurso que sea claro y simple para que su niño modele.
- Repita lo que diga su niño indicando que usted entienda. Construya y amplíese en lo que se dijo.  
"Quieres el jugo? Yo tengo jugo. Tengo jugo de manzana. Tu quieres jugo de manzana?"
- Utilice el hablado de bebé solamente si es necesario para transportar el mensaje y cuando es acompañado por la palabra del adulto. "Es hora para din-din. Vamos a comer"
- Haga un libro de fotos de cosas preferidas o familiares cortando cuadros, ponerlos en grupos de categorías, como cosas para montar, cosas para comer, cosas dulces, las frutas y cosas con que jugar. Hacer juegos con imágenes, mezclando y emparejando imágenes. Por ejemplo, pegar una imagen de un perro detrás de el volante de un coche. Hable de que está incorrecto con esta imagen y de que manera se puede "arreglar." Cuente los artículos representados en el libro.
- Ayude a su niño a entender y a hacer preguntas. Juegue los juegos si-no. Haga preguntas por ejemplo, "Eres un niño?" "Usted es Marty?" "Puede un cerdo volar?." Anime a su niño que invente preguntas y que intente engañarlo a usted.
- Haga preguntas que requieran una opción. "Quieres una manzana o una naranja?", "Quieres usar una camisa roja o azul?"
- Amplie el vocabulario. Nombre las partes del cuerpo, identifique lo que usted hace con ella. "Esta es mi nariz. Puedo oler flores, pasteles, las palomitas y el jabón."
- Cante las canciones y las rimas de canciones de niños, simples de recitar para demostrar el ritmo y el patrón de discurso.
- Ponga objetos familiares en un envase. Haga que su niño quite el objeto y le diga como se llama el objeto y como se usa. "Esta es mi pelota. Yo juego con ella."
- Use fotografías de personas y de lugares familiares, y contar que sucedió o inventar un historia.