## Receptive and Expressive Language Milestones

## Expressive Language

| Age | Receptive Language | Expressive Language |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & 0 \\ & 2 \\ & 2 \\ & 0 \\ & 2 \\ & \vdots \\ & \vdots \end{aligned}$ | Responds to "come here". Searches for hidden/dropped item. Understands simple command with gestures. Looks at correct pictures in book when named. Responds to own name. Follows simple commands with body (wave, clap). Gives item when asked. Responds to simple questions with searching movements (e.g.. looks around when you ask, "Where's Dada?"). | Says a few words around 1 years old. Tries to imitate words/repeats sounds. Uses simple gestures "clap" or "no". Responds to being spoken to by making sounds. Enjoys playing games like "peek-a-boo" and listening to songs. Babbles or makes sounds with changes in pitch/tone. Says first word ("Mama", "Dada"). Looks toward an item they want Imitates functional play. Shouts or coughs to gain attention. Points/reaches to what they want. Waves hi/bye. |
| 0 2 2 0 0 2 0 d d | Follows one-step commands like, "go get the ball". Points to wanted/recognized object. Identifies 1-3 body parts. Identify 2 or more objects in book. Demonstrates functional play (using more than 1 toy appropriately). Copies simple pretend play (feed the baby). Follows one-step verbal commands without gestures (sit down). | Imitates a word Jargon (sentence like intonation). Vocalizes with gestures. Answers "what's that?" Protests by saying no/shake head. Names a few animal sounds. Says between 10-50 words by 18 months. Points to show items. |
| 0 2 2 0 0 2 N | Follows commands with spatial concepts, "put it IN the box". Responds to yes/no questions. Understands verbs (eat, sleep). Follows commands w/out gestures (you only say the command). Listens to simple stories during reading time. Points to named items. Imitates others' behaviors and gestures. | Says between 10 words at 18 months - 300 words at 24 months. Starts to combine 2 words together Names familiar objects. Says own name. Asks, "what's that"? Imitates words more frequently and clearly. Starts to answer basic questions verbally. |
| 0 0 2 0 0 8 0 0 4 | Listens to a 5 minute story. Follows 2 step related commands. Identifies actions in pictures Understands pronouns "I" \& "You". Understands quantity words like "one" and "all". Consistently points to named objects in a book | Uses between 50 words (minimum at 24 months) to 500 words around 30 months. Starts using plurals \& -ing verbs Uses a few pronouns ("my" or "I") Combines 2-3 words together Answers what and where ?'s Begins to ask what/where ?'s |

$\square$ Listens to a 10-15 minute storyFollows 2-3 step commandsUnderstand adjectives "big"/"little"Understands many pronounsPoints to 10 objects described by use ("Point to the one you can EAT.")
$\square$ Understands more pronouns- he, she, it, his, him, her, we, they, us, their, its, oursFollows 3-step directions without gesturesUnderstands negationUnderstands more complex prepositionsin front, behind, next to, overBegins to comprehend when, why, how questionsUnderstands time words- when, before, afterUnderstands same and differentUnderstands several quantity conceptsone, some, rest, all, more, mostMakes inferences and comprehends verbal reasoningGround objects and pictures by categoryUnderstands analogiesUnderstands emotions and physical state wordsReceptively identifies all basic colorsUnderstands names for basic shapes

Understands words for order, like first, next, and last.Understands words for time, like yesterday, today, and tomorrow.Follows classroom directions, like "Draw a circle on your paper around something you eat."
$\square$ Hears and understands most of what she hears at home and in school.Uses between 250 words to 1000 words around 36 monthsUses past tense -ed verbs (walked)Uses a variety of pronounsCombines 3+ words togetherConsistently answers wh- ?'sConsistently asks wh- ?'sVerbally expresses emotionsNames most familiar things \& peopleCan hold a basic conversation by 36 monthsSpeaks in 4-5 word sentences in conversationNames a variety of picturesTells how an object is usedDescribes items and differentiates by color, size, shape, and objectsDescribes what's going on in picture sequence cardsAnswers a variety of logical questions including: what happened, why, when, and howMakes inferences-answers questions about hypothetical events-what would you do if...Uses conjunctions to join ideas in more complex sentences (and, if, so, but)Expressive vocabulary of at least 1000 wordsUses articlesUses quantitative conceptsUses possessivesUses more pronounsUses more verb formsComplete analogies

Responds to "What did you say?"Talks without repeating sounds or words most of the time.Names letters and numbers.Uses sentences that have more than 1 action word, like jump, play, and get. May make some mistakes, like "Zach gots 2 video games, but I got one."Tells a short story.Keeps a conversation going.Talks in different ways, depending on the listener and place. Your child may use short sentences with younger children. He may talk louder outside than inside.

