

LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT CHART

AGE OF CHILD	TYPICAL LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT
6 MONTHS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocalization with intonation • Responds to his name • Responds to human voices without visual cues by turning his head and eyes • Responds appropriately to friendly and angry tones
12 MONTHS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses one or more words with meaning (this may be a fragment of a word) • Understands simple instructions, especially if vocal or physical cues are given • Practices inflection • Is aware of the social value of speech
18 MONTHS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has vocabulary of approximately 5-20 words • Vocabulary made up chiefly of nouns • Some echolalia (repeating a word or phrase over and over) • Much jargon with emotional content • Is able to follow simple commands
24 MONTHS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can name a number of objects common to his surroundings • Is able to use at least two prepositions, usually chosen from the following: in, on, under • Combines words into a short sentence – largely noun-verb combinations (mean) length of sentences is given as 1.2 words • Rhythm and fluency often poor • Volume and pitch of voice not yet well-controlled • Can use two pronouns correctly: I, me, you (although me and I are often confused) • My and mine are beginning to emerge • Responds to such commands as “show me your eyes(nose, mouth, hair)”
36 MONTHS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses pronouns I, you, me correctly • Is using some plurals and past tenses • Knows at least three prepositions, usually in, on, under • Knows chief body parts of the body and should be able to indicate these if not name • Handles three word sentences easily • Has in the neighborhood of 900-1000 words • About 90% of what the child says should be intelligible • Verbs begin to predominate • Understands most simple questions dealing with his environment and activities • Relates his experience so that they can be followed with reason • Able to reason out such questions as “why must you do when you are sleepy, hungry, cold, or thirsty?” • Should be able to give his sex, name, age • Should not be expected to answer all questions even though he understands what is expected
48 MONTHS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knows names of familiar animals • Can use at least four prepositions or can demonstrate his understanding of their meaning when given commands • Names common objects in picture books or magazines • Knows one or more colors • Can repeat 4 digits when they are given slowly

<p>48 MONTHS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can usually repeat words of four syllables • Demonstrates understanding of over and under • Has most vowels and diphthongs and the consonants p, b, m, w, n well established • Often indulges in make-believe • Extensive verbalization as he carries out activities • Understands such concepts as longer, larger, when a constant is presented • Readily follows simple commands even though the stimulus objects are not in sight • Much repetition of words, phrases, syllables, and even sounds
<p>60 MONTHS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can use many descriptive words spontaneously – both adjectives and adverbs • Knows common opposites: big-little, hard-soft, heavy-light, etc. • Has number concepts of 4 or more • Can count to ten • Speech should be completely intelligible, in spite of articulation problems • Should have all vowels and the consonants, m, p, b, h, w, k, g, t, d, n, ng, y (yellow) • Should be able to repeat sentences as long as nine words • Should be able to define common objects in terms of use (hat, shoe, chair) • Should be able to follow three commands given without interruptions • Should know his age • Should have simple time concepts: morning, afternoon, night, day, later, after, while • Tomorrow, yesterday, today • Should be using fairly long sentences and should use some compound and some complex sentences • Speech on the whole should be grammatically correct
<p>6 YEARS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition to the above consonants these should be mastered: f, v, sh, zh, th, l • He should have concepts of 7 • Speech should be completely intelligible and socially useful • Should be able to tell one a rather connected story about a picture, seeing relationships between objects and happenings
<p>7 YEARS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should have mastered the consonants s-z, r, voiceless th, ch, wh, and the soft g as in George • Should handle opposite analogies easily: girl-boy, man-woman, flies-swims, blunt-sharp, short-long, sweet-sour, etc. • Understands such terms as: alike, different, beginning, end, etc. • Should be able to tell time to quarter hour • Should be able to do simple reading and to write or print many words
<p>8 YEARS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can relate rather involved accounts of events, many of which occurred at some time in the past • Complex and compound sentences should be used easily • Should be few lapses in grammatical constrictions-tense, pronouns, plurals • All speech sounds, including consonant blends should be established • Should be reading with considerable ease and now writing simple compositions • Social amenities should be present in his speech in appropriate situations • Control of rate, pitch and volume are generally well and appropriately established • Can carry on conversation at rather adult levels • Follows fairly complex direction with little repetition • Has well developed time and number concepts