

COMMUNICATION MILESTONES

1 Year



Points and waves.

Shows you or gives
you objects.

Imitates and initiates
gestures, plays games,
like blowing kisses or
playing peek-a-boo.

Tries to copy sounds
that you make.

Responds to simple
words and phrases
like "Go bye-bye" and
"Look at Mommy."

Says one or two words—
like **mama**, **dada**,
hi, and **bye**.

COMMUNICATION MILESTONES

2 Years



Uses and understands at least 50 different words for food, toys, animals, and body parts.

Puts two or more words together—like **more water** or **go outside**.

Follows two-step directions—like “Get the spoon, and put it on the table.”

Uses words like **me**, **mine**, and **you**.

Uses words to ask for help.

Uses possessives, like **daddy’s sock**.

COMMUNICATION MILESTONES

3 Years



Uses word combinations often but may repeat some words or phrases, like **baby – baby – baby sit down** or **I want – I want juice**.

Uses *-ing* verbs like **eating** or **running**. Adds **-ed** to the end of words to talk about past actions, like **looked** or **played**.

Asks **why** and **how** questions.

Answers questions like “What do you do when you are sleepy?” or “Which one can you wear?”

Correctly produces p, b, m, h, w, d, and n in words.

Speech is becoming clearer but may not be understandable to unfamiliar listeners or to people who do not know your child.

COMMUNICATION MILESTONES

4 Years



Tells you a story from a book or a video.

Pretends to read alone or with others.

Recognizes signs and logos like STOP.

Pretends to write or spell and can write some letters.

Correctly produces t, k, g, f, y, and **-ing** in words.

Most people can understand what your child says. They may make mistakes on sounds that are later to develop—like l, j, r, sh, ch, s, v, z, and th.

COMMUNICATION MILESTONES

5 Years



Produces grammatically correct sentences. Sentences are longer and more complex.

Understands and uses location words, like **behind**, **beside**, and **between**.

Follows simple directions and rules to play games.

Recognizes and names 10 or more letters and can usually write their own name.

Blends word parts, like **cup** + **cake** = **cupcake**. Identifies some rhyming words, like **cat** and **hat**.

Produces most consonants correctly, and speech is understandable in conversation.