

Is My Child on Track?

Every child develops at their own pace, but knowing the early signs of speech or language delays can help you get support as early as possible.

Developmental Milestones

6 mos 12 mos 18 mos 2 yrs 3 yrs 4 yrs

Coos, babbles,
responds to name

Babbles with inflection; uses
gestures like waving
“bye-bye”; understands
simple words like “no.”

Says 10–20 words; can
point to familiar objects
when named; enjoys
listening to simple stories.

Combines two words (e.g.,
“more juice”); follows
simple directions; names
common items.

Speaks in 3–4 word
sentences; speech is about
75% intelligible; answers
simple questions.

Uses full sentences; speech
is mostly intelligible; tells
short stories and follows
multi-step directions.

Red Flags to Watch Out For

No babbling by
12 Months

Fewer than 50
words by 2 years

Difficulty
understanding
instructions

Trouble making eye
contact or
interacting socially