



Speech & Language Developmental Checklist



Child's Name

Date of Birth Age

Primary language or culture..... Child Care/Agency:

Completed by Date

Outcome

Parental Concerns

Referral recommended Yes No

If yes, date referred

If child does not meet even one of the criteria listed below for his/her age, please refer to Speech Services Niagara as per QCCN protocol.

Young Babies

By 0 to 6 months, most children will:

- Make noises (coos, gurgles, sounds)
- Turn towards sounds
- Watch your face when you talk
- Smile at you

8 - 13 months

- Intentional communication

12 - 14 months

By 12 to 14 months, most children will:

- Understand their own name
- Understand words like "bye-bye", "up" or "come"
- Say sounds like "ba ba, na na, ga ga"
- Laugh and try to make sounds like you do
- Say 2 to 5 words but not clearly

18 months

By 18 months, most children will:

- Understand simple directions (e.g. "Where is your nose?" "Show me your shoe")
- Learn new words weekly
- Use words, sounds, gestures to tell you what he/she wants
- Look for things when asked (e.g. "Go and find your ball")
- Say about 20 words



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24 months

By 24 months, most children will:

- Say two words together like *"more milk"* or *"my hat"*
- Understand more than they can say
- Play with toys and pretend to do things like feed a doll
- Say a minimum of 50 to 300 words

2 to 3 years

From 2 to 3 years, most children will:

- Use short sentences (e.g. *"Me do it"* or *"Daddy going car"*)
- Listen to stories and answer simple questions
- Have a conversation with family members or other familiar people
- Be 90% intelligible by age 3 (i.e. will not need their parent to interpret for them)

3 to 4 years

From 3 to 4 years, most children will:

- Use sentences of four to six words with adult-like grammar
- Give directions like *"Fix this for me"*
- Ask many questions like what, where, and why
- Tell about things they have done in the past
- Talk to themselves and their toys
- Tell a story or sing a song

5 years

By 5 years, most children will:

- Participate in long, detailed conversations
- Use sentences that should almost sound like an adult
- Be able to say most speech sounds correctly
- Follow related directions like *"Get your crayons, make a picture, and put it on the fridge"*

Refer to Speech Services Niagara as per QCCN protocol if the child does not meet even one of the criteria listed above for his/her age and/or if:

- A child has an 'off' or 'different' sound to his/her voice
- A child has pronunciation problems
- A child has a high-risk history or diagnosis such as cleft palate, hearing loss, or PDD/Autism
- A child is stuttering
- A child's play or social skills seem inappropriate
- A child is embarrassed by his/her speech