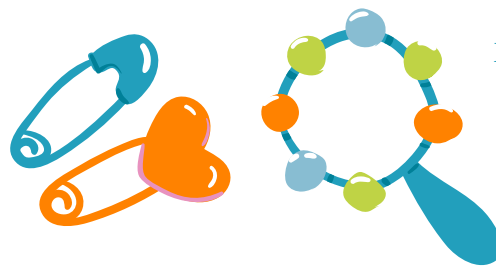


LANGUAGE AND HEARING MILESTONES

0-24 months



Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program (EHDI)
www.hearing.in.gov
317-232-0972

Children learn how to talk and learn by hearing people speaking around them. Unfortunately, the signs of hearing loss are not always obvious. Below are behaviors that your child should be doing between 0 – 24 months. If your child is not showing these behaviors at the ages listed below, please contact your primary care physician or local audiologist to schedule a hearing test for your child. A list of Indiana audiologists who can complete hearing tests on young children is listed at www.hearing.in.gov or you can call us at the number above.

BIRTH to 3 MONTHS

- Quiets when spoken to.
- Changes sucking behavior in response to sound.
- Startles when there is a sudden, loud sound.
- Makes vowel sounds like “ooh” or “ahh”.
- Begins to squeal, coo, smile, and gurgle.

6-9 MONTHS

- Moves eyes and head in the direction of quiet and loud sounds.
- Enjoys games like peek-a-boo and pat-a-cake.
- Uses non-crying sounds to get and keep someone’s attention.
- Imitates different sounds they hear.
- Understands “no-no” or “bye-bye”.
- Makes babbling sounds even when alone.

12-18 MONTHS

- Begins to say consonants in speech like m, n, p, b, d, w, h.
- Learns new words each week and can understand many words.
- Begins to develop a vocabulary of 10-20 meaningful words mixed with jargon.
- Understands simple yes-no questions or “not now” and “no more”.
- Points to body parts when asked.

3-6 MONTHS

- Looks for sounds with eyes.
- Enjoys toys that make noise.
- Laughs.
- Begins to babble by making sounds like “baba”, “gaga”, “mama”, or “dada”.
- Vocalizes excitement and disapproval.

9-12 MONTHS

- Responds to their name being called.
- Changes their voice to go up and down in pitch when babbling.
- Responds to music by bouncing or making sounds in response.
- Correctly uses 1 or 2 words (bye-bye).
- Correctly uses mama and dada.

18-24 MONTHS

- Follows simple commands and understands simple questions.
- Uses two word phrases that are somewhat understandable such as “where kitty?” or “more cookie”.
- Vocabulary of more than 20 words, with more words each month (has a word for most objects).
- Points to pictures in a book when named.
- Listens with interest to songs, rhymes, and stories.



Indiana Department of Health