

# *Baby, Baby...*



## *Do you hear me?*

State of Maryland  
Program to Identify  
Hearing Impaired Infants

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STAGES OF HEARING, LANGUAGE AND SPEECH DEVELOPMENT (Birth to Five Years)

# Does Your Child...

AGE LEVEL	HEARING AND UNDERSTANDING	CHECK ONE		SPEECH	CHECK ONE	
		✓	✓		✓	✓
		YES	NO		YES	NO
BIRTH TO 3 MONTHS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>give a startle response to loud sudden noises within 3 feet</li> <li>quiet to a familiar, friendly voice</li> <li>wake-up when you speak or make noise nearby</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>coo and gurgle</li> <li>laugh and use voice when played with</li> <li>watch your face when spoken to</li> </ul>		
3 MONTHS TO 6 MONTHS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>look to see where sounds come from</li> <li>become frightened by an angry voice</li> <li>smile when spoken to</li> <li>like to play with toys or objects that make noise</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>babble (use a series of sounds)</li> <li>make at least 4 different sounds when using voice</li> <li>babble to people when they speak</li> </ul>		
6 MONTHS TO 9 MONTHS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>turn and look to you when you are speaking in a quiet voice</li> <li>wave when you say "bye-bye"</li> <li>stop for a minute when you say "no-no"</li> <li>look at objects or pictures when someone talks about them</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>babble using "song-like tunes"</li> <li>use voice (not crying) to get your attention</li> <li>use different sounds and appear to be naming things</li> </ul>		
9 MONTHS TO 12 MONTHS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>point to or look at familiar objects or people when asked to</li> <li>look sad when scolded</li> <li>follow directions (open your mouth, give me the ball)</li> <li>"dance" and make sounds to music</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>use jargon (appear to be talking)</li> <li>use consonant sounds (b,d,g,m,n) when "talking"</li> <li>jabber in response to a human voice, using changes in loudness, rhythm and tone</li> </ul>		
<b>NOTE: PLEASE BE AWARE THAT FROM 12 TO 15 MONTHS, FIRST TRUE WORDS APPEAR</b>						
12 MONTHS TO 18 MONTHS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>point to body parts (hair, eyes, nose, mouth) when asked</li> <li>bring objects to you when asked</li> <li>hear and identify sounds coming from another room or outside</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>give one-word answers to questions</li> <li>imitate many new words</li> <li>use words of more than one syllable with meaning (bottle)</li> <li>speak 10 to 20 words</li> </ul>		
18 MONTHS TO 24 MONTHS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>understand simple "yes-no" questions</li> <li>understand simple phrases with prepositions (in the cup)</li> <li>enjoy being read to and point to pictures when asked</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>use own first name</li> <li>use "my" to get toys or other objects</li> <li>tell experiences using jargon and words</li> <li>use 2-word sentences: "my shoes," "go bye-bye," "more juice"</li> </ul>		
24 MONTHS TO 30 MONTHS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>understands negative statements (no more, not now)</li> <li>select objects according to size (big/little)</li> <li>follow simple directions (get your shoes and socks)</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>answer questions (what do you do when you are sleepy)</li> <li>use plurals (2 books, dogs)</li> <li>speak 100 or 200 words</li> </ul>		
30 MONTHS TO 36 MONTHS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>understand uses of objects (show me what goes on your foot)</li> <li>understand the concept of one and hand you (1 ball, 1 cookie)</li> <li>correctly identify boys and girls</li> <li>understand many action words (run, jump)</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>use question forms correctly (who? what? where? when?)</li> <li>use negative forms (it is not, I can't)</li> <li>relate experiences using 4- to 5-word sentences</li> </ul>		
3 YEARS TO 4 YEARS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>understand "why" questions (why do you wash your hands?)</li> <li>understand opposites (fast/slow)</li> <li>correctly select objects according to color</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>use different forms of action words (I play; I want to play; we played)</li> <li>count to 10</li> <li>tell you about pictures in books or about a drawing (I made a purple flower)</li> </ul>		
4 YEARS TO 5 YEARS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>understand size comparison (big/bigger/biggest)</li> <li>understand many pronouns (give it to her, give it to him)</li> <li>follow a 2 to 3 step command (go to the kitchen, get a cup, put it on the table)</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>speak at least 1500 words</li> <li>say most sounds correctly except perhaps: s, th</li> <li>talk freely to family and friends using full sentences which most people can understand</li> </ul>		

- LOOK AT YOUR CHECKLIST OFTEN.
- FIND YOUR CHILD'S AGE LEVEL.
- CHECK YES OR NO FOR EVERY ITEM.
- IF YOUR CHILD FAILS ANY TWO ITEMS WITHIN AN AGE LEVEL, CALL YOUR DOCTOR AND THE TOLL-FREE HEARING HELPLINE. 1-800-633-1316, (VOICE/TDD)

PLEASE POST - PLEASE READ - PLEASE CHECK

# *Do you hear me?*

*This may be the most important question you ever answer for your baby.*

- Babies learn to talk during their first years. Words help them share thoughts and feelings with important people in their world.
- As your baby *hears* words, *language* and *learning* begin and *speech* develops.
- The checklist on the other side will show you how hearing helps speech develop.
- Watch your child grow through the stages of normal hearing and speech development. Seek help *Immediately* if your child is not developing according to the checklist.

# *What can you do?*

- Your birthing hospital has screened your infant's hearing and you have helped them complete a high-risk questionnaire for infant hearing loss.
  - Passing the early hearing screening and high-risk questionnaire does not mean that hearing will stay normal.
  - Some children are born with normal hearing and become hearing impaired later. That is why you must *continue* to fill out the *Checklist*.
  - Talk to your doctor about changes in behavior. You should know that illnesses (such as high fever, meningitis, frequent ear infections), injury to head or ears, and some medications *may cause* hearing loss.
  - If your child has a hearing loss, she/he will not outgrow it.
  - If you think there is a hearing problem, *Do Not Delay*. Seek help *Immediately*.
1. You know your child best. *Talk to your Doctor* about getting a hearing test. Any baby's hearing can be tested.
  2. *Call the Toll-Free Hearing Helpline if you have a question. 1-800-633-1316. (VOICE/TDD)*

# *Please use this checklist!*

*Hang it where you can see it... in the kitchen... in the baby's room... near the T.V.*

Look at the checklist often. Find your child's age level on the checklist. Read each sentence. Check Yes or No for every item.

If you have checked NO for any two items within any age level, your child may have a hearing loss.

*Now...*

1. *Talk to your Doctor about getting a hearing test.*
2. *Call the Toll-Free Hearing Helpline if you have a question. 1-800-633-1316. (VOICE/TDD)*