



LEARNING TO TALK

Early development of Speech and Spoken Language

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Stage	Characteristics	Notes:
Hearing Age	How long have they had access to all the sounds of speech?	
Duration	Learning to control the <u>PATTERN</u> of their voice	
Intensity	Learning to control the <u>LOUDNESS</u> of their voice	
Pitch	Learning to control the <u>RANGE</u> of their voice	
Suprasegmentals (all three together)	Duration, Intensity & Pitch	
Vowels (and diphthongs)	<u>First:</u> uh, ah, ee, oo, oh <u>Next:</u> ae, ay, iy, ih, eh,	
Consonants (initial, medial & final positions of words)	<u>First:</u> p, m, n, h, w <u>Next:</u> b, d, t, k, ng <u>Next:</u> f, y, l, r, s ch, sh, z <u>Last:</u> j, v, th, th, zh	

NOTES:

Stage	Characteristics	Notes:
Syllables	Single (muh) Repeated (dehdeh) Alternated (maguhgoo)	
Learning to Listen Sounds	LING SIX (<i>ah, oo, ee, sh, sh, mm</i>) Animals Vehicles Actions Functions	
Protowords	Approximations of first words – intentional and consistent use	
Single Words	Labels Actions Emotions Descriptions Locations	
Combinations of Words	Bridge phrases Word + gesture Item + action Action + location Negation + item/action	
Simple Sentences	Beginning to use grammar markers (and, a, the) (-ing, -ed) (-s, -es, -'s)	
Compound / Complex Sentences	Beginning to combine thoughts and ideas Using many grammar markers	

NOTES:

Learning to Talk: Additional Resources

Videos for families:

1. Website and video for families about developing “first words”:
<https://www.webmd.com/parenting/baby-talk-your-babys-first-words#1>
2. Website with video and written explanation of the early building blocks to speech development: <http://beforefirstwords.upf.edu/precursors-of-language/first-sounds/>
3. 9 month old “talking” about talking: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WU-qxlodRUQ>
4. YouTube: “Milestone Moments” – great short videos explaining different skills at different age levels. Some of these have captioning, some are not captioned.

Quick Reads for families:

1. Speech, language and feeding milestones in parent friendly terms:
<https://www.speechlanguagefeeding.com/speech-and-language-milestones-for-children/>
2. Speech sound development milestones in parent friendly terms:
<https://www.everydayfamily.com/blog/speech-sound-milestones-you-should-know/>
3. Hearing First: Powering Potential – this site has wonderful resources for parents and professionals wanting to know more about promoting listening and speaking for their children with hearing differences. Check out their Learning to Listen Sounds and Phrases list here: <https://community.hearingfirst.org/professionals/m/mediagallery/47>

Charts for teachers and therapists:

1. Linguisystems Communication Milestones PreLinguistic Development:
www.linguisystems.com
2. First Years program Pre-linguistic chart: <http://www.firstyears.org/c4/u2/preling.htm>
3. Vowel Diagram with placement information from www.mommyspeechtherapy.com
4. Chart for Consonant development by age: <http://speechtherapycenter.com/services/>
5. Learning to Listen Sounds and Phrases:
<https://community.hearingfirst.org/professionals/m/mediagallery/47>
6. Quick reference guide to Brown’s Stages: https://www.speech-language-therapy.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=33:brown&catid=2:uncategorised&Itemid=117
7. First Years program data recording chart for Bloom and Lahey Language Development markers: <http://firstyears.org/c4/bloom-lahey/BLdatasheet.pdf>

*For more information about **online learning opportunities** for Parents and Professionals, check out the list of resources on the Collaborative Communications website:
<http://www.carrienorman.com/always-learning/>