

Cornerstone Ear, Nose & Throat - FREE Pediatric Speech and Hearing Checklist

This checklist outlines behaviors which may be expected of a child at various age levels. If the child consistently fails to respond as the checklist suggests, there may be a problem which requires further evaluation. Contact Cornerstone Ear, Nose & Throat at 704.289.8220 for an audiologic evaluation.

3-6 MONTHS

Children awaken or quiet to the sound of their parents' voices. They typically turn their eyes and their heads in the direction of a sound.

7-10 MONTHS

Children turn their heads and their shoulders toward familiar sounds, even when they cannot see what is happening. Sounds do not have to be loud to cause them to respond.

11-15 MONTHS

Children show understanding of some words by appropriate behavior. For example, they point to or look at familiar objects, on request. They jabber in response to a voice, are apt to cry when there is thunder, or may frown when scolded.

1 1/2 YEARS

Some children begin to identify parts of the body. They should be able to show their eyes or toes and should be using a few single words. The words are not complete or pronounced perfectly but are clearly meaningful.

2 YEARS

Children should be able to follow a few simple commands without visual cues. They should be using a variety of everyday words heard at home. Most 2 year-olds enjoy being read to and shown simple pictures in a book, and will point them out when asked.

2 1/2 YEARS

Many children say or sing short rhymes or songs and enjoy listening to records or singing. If children have good hearing, and these events bring them pleasure, they usually react to the sound by running to look or telling someone what they hear.

3 YEARS

Children should be able to understand and use some simple verbs, prepositions, adjectives, and pronouns such as go, in, big, and me. They should be able to locate the source of sound. They should be using complete sentences some of the time.

4 YEARS

Children should be able to give connected accounts of some recent experiences. They should be able to carry out a sequence of two simple directions.

5 YEARS

A child's speech should be intelligible, even though some sounds may still be mispronounced. Most children this age can carry on a conversation if the vocabulary is within their experience. They should use pronouns correctly.