Hearing and Understanding

**Birth-3 Months**

• Startles to loud sounds.

• Quiets or smiles when spoken to.

• Seems to recognize your voice and quiets if crying.

• Increases or decreases sucking behavior in response to sound.

**4-6 Months**

• Moves eyes in direction of sounds.

• Responds to changes in tone of your voice.

• Notices toys that make sounds.

• Pays attention to music.

**7 Months-1 Year**

• Enjoys games like peek-o-boo and pat-a-cake.

• Turns and looks in direction of sounds.

• Listens when spoken to.

• Recognizes words for common items like “cup”, “shoe”, “book”, or “juice”.

• Begins to respond to requests (e.g. “Come here” or “Want more?”).

Talking

**Birth-3 Months**

• Makes pleasure sounds (cooing, gooing).

• Cries differently for different needs.

• Smiles when sees you.

**4-6 Months**

• Babbling sounds more speech-like with many different sounds, including p, b, and m.

• Chuckles and giggles.

• Vocalizes excitement and displeasure.

• Makes gurgling sounds when left alone and when playing with you.

**7 Months-1 Year**

• Babbling has both long and short groups of sounds such as “tata upup bibibibi.”

• Uses speech or non-crying sounds to get and keep attention.

• Uses gestures to communication (waving, holding arms to be picked up)

• Imitates different speech sounds.

• Has one or two words (hi, dog, dada, mama) around first birthday, although sounds may not be clear.

Hearing and Understanding

**One to Two Years**

• Points to a few body parts when asked.

• Follows simple commands and understands simple questions (“Roll the ball”, “Kiss the baby”, “Where’s your shoe?”).

• Listens to simple stories, songs, and rhymes.

• Points to pictures in a book when named.

Hearing and Understanding

**Two to Three Years**

• Understands differences in meaning (“go-stop”, “in-on”, “big-little”, “up-down”).

• Follows two requests (“Get the book and put it on the table”).

• Listens to and enjoys hearing stories for longer periods of time.

Talking

**One to Two Years**

• Says more words every month.

• Uses some one- or two- word questions (“Where kitty?”, “Go bye-bye?”, “What’s that?”).

• Puts two words together (“more cookie”, “no juice”, “mommy book”).

• Uses many different consonant sounds of the beginning of words.

Talking

**Two to Three Years**

• Has a word for almost everything.

• Uses two- or three- words to talk about and ask for things.

• Uses k, g, f, t, d, and n sounds.

• Speech is understood by familiar listeners most of the time.

• Often asks for or directs attention to objects by naming them.

Hearing and Understanding

**Three to Four Years**

• Hears you when call from another room.

• Hears television or radio at the same loudness level as other family members.

• Answers simple, “who?”, “what?”, “where?”, and “why?” questions.

Hearing and Understanding

**Four to Five Years**

• Pays attention to a short story and answers simple questions about them.

• Hears and understands most of what is said at home and in school.

Talking

**Three to Four Years**

• Talks about activities at school or at friends’ homes.

• People outside family usually understand child’s speech.

• Uses a lot of sentences that have 4 or more words.

• Usually talks easily without repeating syllables or words.

Talking

**Four to Five Years**

• Uses sentences that give lots of details (“The biggest peach is mine”).

• Tells stories that stick to topic.

• Communicates easily with other children and adults.

• Says most sounds correctly except a few like l, s, r, v, z, ch, sh, th.

• Says rhyming words.

• Names some letters and numbers.

• Uses the same grammar as the rest of the family