



DIVE into a Whole New  
World of Communication

## When a Speech Evaluation is Recommended

### When trying to communicate does the child:

1. Have to repeat him/herself to be understood?
2. Get frustrated or avoid to attempt to communicate?
3. Give up when trying to communicate?
4. Use more gestures than words?
5. Struggle academically?
6. Demonstrate difficulty with peer interaction, relationships, and/or behavior?
7. Repeat sounds, part-word repetitions, whole-word repetitions, prolongations of sounds?
8. Demonstrate difficulty with changes in environment and/or schedule?
9. Demonstrate unusual behaviors, such as: poor eye contact, doesn't respond to his/her name, flapping, body rocking, spinning, echolalia, obsessive interests, sensitivity to tastes, textures, sounds, and/or smells?

### When eating does the child:

1. Have difficulty biting or chewing his/her food?
2. Stuff his/her mouth with food?
3. Pocket food in his/her mouth?
4. Use the bottle/straw/cup inefficiently and/or ineffectively?
5. Have spillage from the mouth when eating/drinking?
6. Cough and/or clear their throat during and/or after eating/drinking?
7. Watery eyes and/or runny nose during and/or after eating drinking?
8. Refuse certain temperatures/textures?
9. Wet/gurgly voice during and/or after eating/drinking?

### Other questions:

1. Does the child drool past 18 months?
2. Does the child have recurring ear infections and/or has a hearing impairment?

## Milestones: Is the Child...

### 3-12 months:

1. Feeding okay?
2. Babbling?
3. Recognize familiar faces and voices?
4. Does the child look at speaker?

### 12-18 Months:

1. Saying first words?
2. Beginning to name simple objects?
3. Beginning to verbalize requests?
4. Protests?
5. Greets?
6. Follows simple directions?
7. Points to 2 objects?
8. Identifies 1-2 body parts?

### 18-24 Months:

1. Says 2-3 word phrases?
2. Uses 200+ words by age 2?
3. Enjoys listening to stories?
4. Parent understands most of what is said by 2 years of age?

### 2 to 2 ½ Years:

1. Uses 3-4 word phrases?
2. 400+ word vocabulary by 2 ½?
3. Listens to 5-10 minute stories?
4. Follows 2-step directions?
5. Uses plurals?
6. Understands basic prepositions such as: in, on, off, and out?

### 2 ½ to 3 Years:

1. Asks basic questions?
2. Verbalizes pronouns such as I, me, and mine?
3. Answers "what" questions?
4. Comprehends sizes (big, little)?
5. Uses 500 words?
6. Familiar and unfamiliar listeners understand what the child says by 3 years of age?

### 3 ½ Years:

1. Uses most parts of speech in 4-5 word sentences?
2. Asks "who", "whose", "why", and "how many" questions?
3. Understands commands that involve 2 objects/actions?
4. Maintains topic through multiple conversational turns?
5. Answers "when" and "where" questions?
6. Familiar and unfamiliar listeners understand what the child says?

### 4 Years:

1. Produces blends (two sounds together, such as "clay")?
2. Communicates his/her wants/needs without difficulty?
3. Uses 4-7 word sentences with few grammatical errors?
4. Understands complex directions - including those requiring 3 steps/actions?
5. Answers "why" questions?
6. Correct usage of prepositions?
7. Familiar and unfamiliar listeners understand what the child says?

### 5 Years:

1. Uses 5-8 word grammatically correct sentences? Tells long stories?
2. Asks for definitions for the meaning of words?
3. Gives definitions of words?
4. Uses adjectives?
5. Understands concepts such as half, whole, first, and last?

### 6 Years:

1. Adds and subtracts numbers to five?
2. Uses "er" and "est"?
3. Retells a story using visual support?
4. Uses irregular plurals in conversation?

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