

Many parents wonder if their child's language and listening skills are developing normally.

While individual children develop their talking and understanding at different rates, there is a general pattern to children's language development.



Trading times

| | |
|----------|-----------|
| Weekdays | 9am - 6pm |
| Saturday | 9am - 3pm |

Complete
SPEECH PATHOLOGY

9781 4088

FRANKSTON - 65 Beach Street, 3199
CHELLENHAM - 1253 Nepean Hwy, 3192
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SPEECH PATHOLOGY

Learning
to speak
and
understand

What to expect
in the first
five years.



By the age of **One.**

Your Baby Should Be Able To :

- Respond to familiar sounds such as the phone ringing, the vacuum cleaner, or the car in the driveway
- Understand simple commands, such as no
- Recognise their own name
- Understand the names of familiar objects or people
- Say “dad”, “mum” and a few other words
- Enjoy songs, music and books
- Try to make familiar sounds, such as car and animal noises

By The Age Of **Two.**

Your Toddler Should Be Able To:

- Say the name of simple body parts, such as nose and tummy
- Listen to stories and say the names of the pictures
- Understand simple sentences, such as “Where’s your shoe?”
- Use more than fifty words such as “no”, “gone”, “mine”, “teddy”
- Talk to themselves or their toys during play
- Sing simple songs such as “Twinkle twinkle little star” or “Baa baa black sheep”
- Use pronouns instead of names such as me you
- Try simple sentences such as “milk all gone”.

By The Age Of **Three.**

Your Child Should Be Able To:

- Understand how objects are used – a crayon is used for drawing
- Recognise their own needs, such as hunger
- Follow directions such as, go and get your bag and your coat
- Use three and four word sentences
- Enjoy telling stories and answering questions
- Have favourite books and television programs
- Be understood by familiar adults

By The Age Of **Four.**

Your Child Should Be Able To:

- Understand shape and colour names
- Understand some “time words such as lunchtime, today, winter”
- Ask who, what, and why questions
- Use lots of words, about 900, usually in four to five word sentences
- Use correct grammar with occasional mistakes such as “ I falled down”
- Use language when playing with other children
- Speak clearly enough to be understood by most people

By The Age Of **Five.**

Your Child Should Be Able To:

- Understand opposites, such as high and low, wet and dry, big and little
- Use sentences of about six words with correct grammar
- Talk about events that are happening, have happened or might happen.
- Explain why something happens, such as “ Mum’s car stopped because the petrol ran out”
- Explain the function of objects, for example “This scrunchie helps keep my hair away”
- Follow three directions for example, “Stand up, get your shoes on and wait by the door”.
- Say how they feel and tell you their ideas
- Become interested in writing, numbers, and reading things
- Speak clearly enough to be understood by anyone

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When To Seek Help?

- A Speech pathologist is professionally trained to advise, diagnose, and work with children and adults who have communication problems. They work in a variety of settings, including schools, health centres, hospitals or in private practice.
- Contact a Speech Pathologist if you are worried about you child’s speech and language if your child sounds quite different from the ages and stages outlined above, or if your child’s teacher is concerned.