

Infant Language Checklist

This is a basic guide to typical infant language development. However, it is important to know that children develop at different rates.

By 9 months, most children:

- Turn to the sounds they hear
- Babble using a variety of sounds (for example *ba ba, da da*)
- Use their voice to get help and attention

By 12 months, most children:

- Respond to their name
- Understand simple words (for example, *no*) and basic directions
- Play social games (for example, *Peek-a-boo*)
- Imitate consonant and vowel combinations (for example, *da, na, ta*)
- May say their first word with meaning (for example, *mama*)

By 18 months, most children:

- Identify several body parts when named
- Imitate words you say
- Understand simple questions
- Use consonant sounds (for example *t, d, n* and *h*)
- Use at least ten words

By 24 months, most children:

- Listen to simple stories and sing simple songs
- Recognise and name pictures
- Use at least fifty words
- Make simple sentences (for example *Mummy go out*)

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