

## When should a child be referred to a Speech-Language

Pathologist? If the parent answers “no” to one or more of these questions, speech and language testing is warranted. *Early Identification = Early Intervention.*

9 mos:

- Does the child imitate sounds?
- Does the child say single words?
- Does the child “jibber-jabber”?
- Has the child begun to respond to requests? (Give me the ball)
- Does the child look up when the parent calls?

12 mos:

- Does the child babble? (ba-ba-ba)
- Does the child use single words?
- Does the child vocalize spontaneously to indicate wants and needs?
- Does the child listen to people talking?

18-24 mos:

- Does the child use 10-15 words (by age 2)?
- Does the child ask 1-2 word questions? (Where kitty?)
- Does the child put 2 words together? (More cookie)
- Does the child follow 1 step directions? (without cues or gestures)
- Does the child follow 2 step directions (by age 2)?

30-36 mos:

- Does the child listen to stories?
- Does the child point to 6 or more body parts?
- Does the child say “I or “me”?
- Does the child give his/her full name?
- Does the child ask “wh” questions?
- Does the child use plurals and past tense verbs? (may be used incorrectly)
- Is the child intelligible 80% of the time?

48 mos:

- Does the child use 200-300 words?
- Does the child use 3-4 word sentences and questions?
- Does the child understand descriptive concepts? (big, soft, hot)
- Does the child say most sounds, except “s, z, th, l, v” and “r”?

5 years:

- Does the child use the same sentence structure as the family?
- Does the child say all sounds correctly, except “th, r, v”?
- Does the child know common opposites?

6 years:

- Does the child use adult-like grammar in sentences and conversations?
- Does the child tell the month and day of his/her birthday?
- Does the child say his address?
- Does the child know the meaning of “today, yesterday” and “tomorrow”?
- Does the child produce all speech sounds correctly?

*This checklist was created by SLPs at Charlotte Speech & Hearing Center, a non-profit agency dedicated to advocacy for individuals with communication disorders. Please feel free to copy.*