

When should a child be referred to a Speech-Language Pathologist?

If the parent answers “no” to one or more of these questions, a speech and language screening 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?