

# Speech & Language Milestones

## 24-36 months



By age 2, most children have about 50 words and begin using two-word phrases like "more juice." If your child isn't doing this, it might be worth consulting a speech-language pathologist.

- **24-27 months**
  - Points to 4 action words in pictures.
  - Recognizes family members' names.
  - Uses 2-3 word phrases frequently.
  - Uses action words.
  - Understands the concept of "one" and size concepts.
  - Repeats two numbers/words.
- **27-30 months**
  - Plays next to other children.
  - Uses early pronouns consistently (me, mine, my, I, you).
  - Uses negation in phrases (no, not).
  - Answers simple "wh" questions.
  - Identifies 4 objects by function.
  - Names 1 color.
- **30-33 months**
  - Sequences actions during play (e.g., eat, go to bed).
  - Uses plural forms (e.g., cats).
  - Understands quantity concepts (one, all).
  - Uses early prepositions (in, out, off, on, up, down, here, there).
- **33-36 months**
  - States first and last name.
  - Identifies parts of an object (e.g., wheel, tail).
  - Tells about a personal experience.
  - Uses verb forms (e.g., -ing, with -ed/s emerging).
  - Expresses physical states (e.g., tired, hungry).
  - Counts to 3.
  - Follows 3-step directions.

### What to do:

If under 3, you can and are encouraged to inquire about early intervention services in your area (SoonerStart).

Contact pediatrician to discuss milestones and referral to a Speech-Language Pathologist for a comprehensive evaluation.

Ensure your child has a hearing test, as hearing loss can impact speech and language development. Ear infections and non-infected fluid build up in the ear should also be considered.

Encourage communication at home through interactive play, reading together, and using gestures and signs if verbal skills are limited.