**Developmental Milestones for Speech/Language**

**@ 3 Months**

* Responds to adult interactions
* Seeks to make eye contact with adults
* Begins to “coo” and “gurgle”
* Vocalizes to adult’s smile and talk
* Responds to stimulation in and around the mouth

**@ 6 Months**

* Responds to sounds other than voices
* Recognizes own name
* Begins to babble consonant-vowel combinations
* Take turns vocalizing
* Vocalization sound more “speech like” (babbling

Becomes more complex with practice)

* Eats pureed foods from a small spoon
* Holds a bottle independently

**@ 9 Months**

* Gives objects upon request
* Understands simple questions (“Want up?”)
* Looks at pictures in a book
* Much more complex vocalizations (sounds like

a conversation)

* Begins to say a few words
* Cleans spoon with his/her upper lip
* Begins to self feed using fingers
* Begins eating soft table foods

**@ 12 Months**

* Identifies objects in the environment
* Follows one-step directions
* Says more words spontaneously
* Imitates new words
* Uses toys and objects functionally (pushes a toy, attempts to bush own hair)
* Drinks through a straw
* Bites through crunchy cookies and crackers

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**@ 18 Months**

* Produces at least fifteen words
* Uses consonants such as t, d, n, and h
* Understands 50 words
* Pretends with toys (pretends to feed a doll using a block for food)
* Moves food in his/her mouth from side to side as they chew
* Drinks out of open cup

**@ 24 Months**

* Produces at least 50 words
* Uses two-word phrases frequently
* Follows a two-step related command (“pick up the ball and roll it to me.”)
* Pretends in two-step sequences (pretends to give a doll a drink & wipe its mouth)
* Feeds him/herself using a spoon

**@ 36 Months**

* Produces at least 500 words
* Answers “wh” questions (“what did you eat for lunch?)
* Begins to use grammatical forms (plurals, past-tense verbs, pronouns)
* Produces all speech sounds correctly except s, z, sh, ch, j, th, l, and r
* 80% understandable
* Consumes a variety of liquids and solids

**@ 4 Years**

* Follows multi-part directions
* Begins to play rhyming games (“what rhymes with bat?”)
* Can tell about experiences in the correct sequence
* Produces all speech sounds correctly except r and “th” – 100% understandable
* Eating advanced textures with minimal supervision from caregiver

**@ 5 Years**

* Has a minimum expressive vocabulary of 1500 words
* Can tell a story (includes a beginning, middle, & end)
* Defines objects by their use and can talk about their features (size, shape, composition)