

SPEECH & LANGUAGE SKILLS GUIDE

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TO USE

1. DETERMINE CHILD'S AGE IN MONTHS, IF UNDER 3

2. FIND AGE-LEVEL SKILLS FOR BOTH EXPRESSIVE AND RECEPTIVE LANGUAGE TO THE RIGHT OF THEIR AGE

3. CHECK OFF MILESTONES AND WATCH THEM GROW!

****THIS IS MEANT TO BE USED AS A GUIDE AND SHOULD NOT REPLACE A FORMAL EVALUATION**

SOURCES

AMERICAN SPEECH-LANGUAGE AND HEARING ASSOCIATION (ASHA)

ROSSETTI INFANT-TODDLER LANGUAGE SCALE



12- 36 MONTHS

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12-18 MO

EXPRESSIVE (USES)

- BY **15 MONTHS**: SAYS 8-10 WORDS, SHAKES HEAD "NO", SINGS, USES 3 ANIMAL SOUNDS
- BY **18 MONTHS**: SAYS 50 WORDS, ASKS "WHAT'S THAT?", ASKS FOR "MORE"

RECEPTIVE (UNDERSTANDS)

- FOLLOWS 1-STEP, SIMPLE DIRECTIONS
- RESPONDS TO REQUESTS TO SAY WORDS
- ENJOYS RHYMES, POINTS TO SOME ACTION WORDS IN PICTURES
- IDENTIFIES (3-6) BODY PARTS OR CLOTHING

18-24 MO

EXPRESSIVE (USES)

- BY **21 MONTHS**: USES 1-WORD PHRASES FREQUENTLY, IMITATES 2 & 3-WORD PHRASES, IMITATES ENVIRONMENTAL NOISES (E.G. "BEEP", "VROOM")
- BY **24 MONTHS**: USES 200 WORDS, USES 2-WORD PHRASES FREQUENTLY, REFERS TO SELF BY NAME

RECEPTIVE (UNDERSTANDS)

- FOLLOWS 1-STEP NOVEL (I.E. NEW) DIRECTIONS
- POINTS TO NAMED PICTURES IN BOOKS
- POINTS TO (4) BODY PARTS ON SELF
- UNDERSTANDS "SIT DOWN" AND "COME HERE"
- FOLLOWS 2-STEP RELATED DIRECTIONS

24-30 MO

EXPRESSIVE (USES)

- BY **27 MONTHS**: IMITATES (2) NUMBERS, ASKS FOR HELP, USES ACTION WORDS, USES 3-WORD PHRASES FREQUENTLY
- BY **30 MONTHS**: NAMES A COLOR, USES NEGATION (E.G. NO, NOT), RESPONDS TO GREETINGS CONSISTENTLY

RECEPTIVE (UNDERSTANDS)

- BY **27 MONTHS**: POINTS TO (4) ACTION WORDS, RECOGNIZES FAMILY MEMBER NAMES, SIZE CONCEPTS
- BY **30 MONTHS**: RESPONDS TO SIMPLE QUESTIONS, UNDERSTANDS ON, UNDER, AND IN

30-36 MO

EXPRESSIVE (USES)

- BY **33 MONTHS**: ANSWERS QUESTIONS WITH "YES"/"NO", IMITATES A SERIES OF (3) WORDS, USES PLURALS, USES PREPOSITIONS, STATES FIRST AND LAST NAME
- BY **36 MONTHS**: HAS 1,000+ WORDS, USES SENTENCES, COUNTS TO 3, USES VERB FORMS (E.G. -ING, -ED)

RECEPTIVE (UNDERSTANDS)

- BY **33 MONTHS**: ANSWERS "YES/NO" QUESTIONS CORRECTLY, FOLLOWS 2-STEP UNRELATED DIRECTIONS, UNDERSTANDS (5) ACTIONS
- BY **36 MONTHS**: IDENTIFIES PARTS OF AN OBJECT, FOLLOWS 3-STEP UNRELATED DIRECTIONS

3-7 YEARS

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4 YEARS

**EXPRESSIVE
(USES)**

- PUTS (4) WORDS TOGETHER & (4) SENTENCES AT A TIME
- PRONOUNS (HE, SHE, THEY, HIM, HER, THEM)
- RHYMING WORDS (E.G. CAT-BAT-RAT)
- NEGATIVES (E.G. NOBODY, NO ONE)
- PAST TENSE "BE" (E.G. "SHE WAS DANCING")

**RECEPTIVE
(UNDERSTANDS)**

- WORDS FOR SOME SHAPES AND COLORS
- ANSWERS SIMPLE "WHAT", "WHO" AND "WHERE" QUESTIONS

5 YEARS

**EXPRESSIVE
(USES)**

- MOSTLY SPEAKS WITHOUT REPEATING WORDS OR SOUNDS
- NAMES LETTERS AND NUMBERS
- TELLS A STORY

**RECEPTIVE
(UNDERSTANDS)**

- TIME WORDS (E.G. TODAY, TOMORROW, YESTERDAY)
- WORDS FOR ORDER (E.G. FIRST, LAST, NEXT)
- COMPARATIVES AND SUPERLATIVES (E.G. SMALLER, SMALLEST)

6 YEARS

**EXPRESSIVE
(USES)**

- DEFINES OBJECTS BY USE (E.G. YOU DRINK WITH A CUP) AND CAN EXPLAIN WHAT THEY ARE MADE OF
- RETELLS A STORY OR SHARES A RECENT EXPERIENCE THROUGH STORY

**RECEPTIVE
(UNDERSTANDS)**

- OPPOSITES (E.G. TOP/BOTTOM, BIG/LITTLE)
- HOW TWO ITEMS ARE SIMILAR AND DIFFERENT
- ORDINAL NUMBERS (E.G. FIRST, SECOND, THIRD)
- KNOWS THEIR ADDRESS, ANSWERS PAST QUESTIONS
- SOME LETTER/SOUND AWARENESS

7 YEARS

**EXPRESSIVE
(USES)**

- USES MOST GRAMMAR CORRECTLY
- GIVES DIRECTIONS
- STAYS ON TOPIC AND TAKES TURNS IN CONVERSATION

**RECEPTIVE
(UNDERSTANDS)**

- RECALLS INFORMATION LEARNED
- NAMES ALL SOUNDS IN SHORT WORDS
- ANSWERS ALL "WH" QUESTIONS (E.G. WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, WHY)