## Speech and Language Development II

| Age | Hearing and Understanding | Expressive Language |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 3 to 6 months | Responds to sounds and voices by looking toward sound | Babbles. Practices sounds. Vocalizes back when talked to. |
| 6 to 12 months | Responds to requests like "Come here." Looks at pictures Understands gestures. | Babbling sounds like real speech. Plays simple games like pat-acake. Vocalizes to get attention. |
| 1 to 2 years | Obeys simple commands like "Put the truck in the box." Can point to body parts like nose and mouth. Recognizes pictures of objects. Listens to rhymes and songs. | Says first words and names objects. Repeats phrases like "all gone." Begins to use two-word sentences and questions ("Where kitty?" "What's that?"). |
| 2 to 3 years | Identifies objects by function (i.e., "Which one do you play with?") Understands prepositions and adjectives like in, on, big, little. | Uses two- to four-word sentences. Vocabulary builds to around 900 words. Uses adjectives, prepositions, and pronouns. |
| 3 to 4 years | Listens to stories. Follows two commands. Can match and sort objects. Remembers recent events. | Asks lots of questions. Speech is understandable. Tells stories, shares ideas. Vocabulary increases to 1500 words. Uses most parts of speech. Counts to three. |
| 4 to 5 years | Comprehends 2500 words. Understands common opposites (hotcold, in-out, etc.). Follows three-part commands. Likes books. Tries to "read" them. Can retell a story using picture clues. | Uses complete sentences. Uses how and where questions. Talks about imaginary things. Counts to ten. Can name items in a category (foods, animals, etc.). Has very few sound errors in speech. |
| 5 to 6 years | Understands time concepts. Begins to differentiate between fact and fantasy. Understands humor, plot, surprise. Can sequence four pictures to make a story. Comprehends 4,000 words. | Tells several things about an object. Tells sequence of events. Uses imaginative language in play. Will usually talk willingly to adults. Likes to pretend and act out stories. Uses possessives, negatives. conjunctions. Irregular plurals and complex sentences. |
| 6 to 8 years | Understands riddles. Anticipates story endings. Is interested in current events. Wonders about abstract concepts, like how things work. Understands some figurative language. | Gives short oral reports. Uses details in description. Uses most irregular verb forms. Creates conversation suggested by a picture. Names days, months, numbers in serial order. |

l'hese are general guidelines. Children will vary.

