

By 2 yrs children can normally:

- Follow simple instructions
- Use 30 words or more

If this is **not** the case or you have any concerns regarding your child's speech and language development, please contact Simply Speaking.



Simply Speaking

With

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**“When will my  
child learn to  
talk?”**



**Normal language development  
for 0-2 year olds**

- Children start communicating from birth- babies let us know they are hungry by crying. This is the first stage of your child's language development.
- Parents often like to know what to expect and when: this leaflet outlines normal language development in 0-2 year olds.
- You as the parent, play a vital role in your child learning to talk. See "Let's talk and play together" for various language game ideas.
- Remember children all develop at slightly different rates and these are only intended as guidelines

### I am 6 months old: what should I be doing?

Watching peoples faces

Crying with pain/ hunger

Making sounds when people talk to me

Smiling

Responding to "no"

Beginning to babble e.g. saying "bababa"

### I am 1 year old: what should I be doing?

Looking at you when you say my name

Enjoying games like "round and round the garden"

Babbling sounds to myself or to you

Pointing and waving

### I am 18 months old: what should I be doing?

Pointing to pictures in books

Pointing to body parts when asked e.g. where's your nose?

Understands simple instructions

Using at least 10 words and copies new words

Starting to join words together e.g "all gone"

### I am 2 years old: what should I be doing?

Understands doing words e.g. walking, sleeping

Understands other words e.g. in/on/under

Listens to simple stories

Uses 50 words

Using 2-3 word sentences

Not all of my speech is clear