

Warning Signs by Age of a communication or speech disorder

Birth to 6 Months

- Lack of response to sound
- Lack of interest in communication
- Feeding problems
- Doesn't localize to sound

6 to 12 Months

- Groping or awkward movements when attempting to make or imitate sound
- Limited sound production, child doesn't attempt to imitate speech
- Feeding, chewing and/or swallowing difficulties
- Doesn't respond to smiles and verbal interaction

12 to 24 Months

- Has difficulty understanding simple words or directions
- Cannot answer simple yes/no questions
- Cannot name simple objects / actions
- Limited vocabulary
- Poor eye contact
- Limited social interaction
- Difficulty sitting for listening activities or stories
- Grunting/gesturing as main form of communication
- Groping or awkward movements when attempting to make or imitate sounds

3 to 4 Year Olds

- Limited Vocabulary
- Communicating with 1-3 words or phrases instead of using sentences
- Increased frustration when not understood
- Unclear speech that is not easily understood outside of those that live in the home
- Not able to follow multi-step directions
- Unable to answer the "W" questions (who, what, where, when, why)