

Remember . . .

- It's YOU your baby wants to hear not the TV.
- To try to have a special play time with your child each day.
- A dummy all day keeps talking away. Keep it for sleep time.

If I . . .

- Don't react to loud noises . . .
- Am very quiet and don't make many sounds . . .
- Don't seem interested in other people . . .
- Have difficulty feeding . . .

Please contact your Health Visitor.



Talking tips

Heads up, lookers and communicators



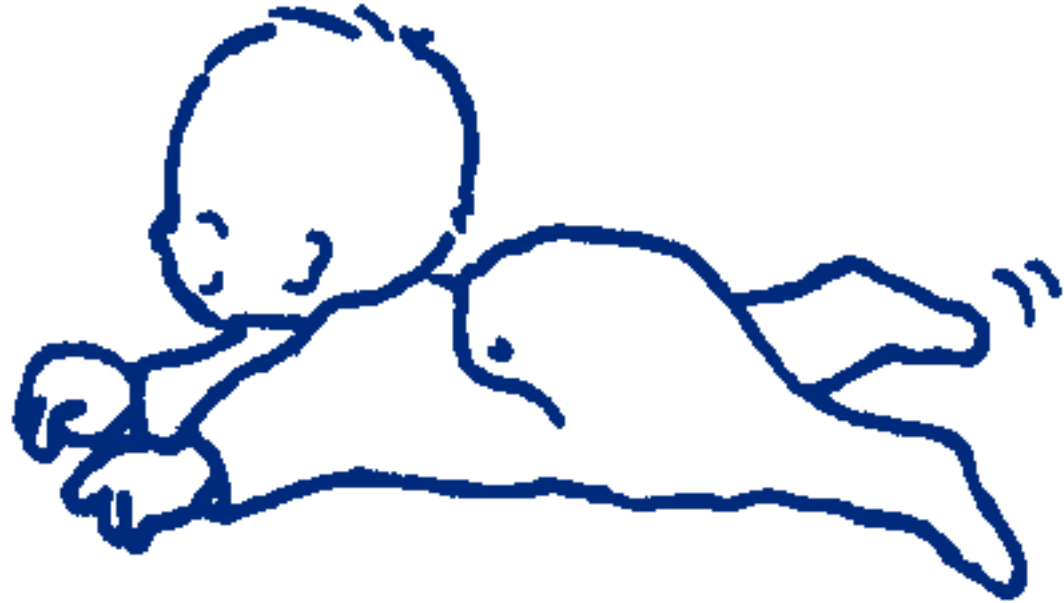
0-8 months

Start talking and playing with me
as soon as I am born.

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I can . . .

- Look at and recognise your face if you hold me close.
- Enjoy “talking” to you - so listen to the noises I make and then make them back to me.
- Understand gestures e.g. when you wave bye bye.
- Understand simple words e.g. “no”.



I will . . .

- Cry, shout, laugh and reach to get your attention and tell you how I am feeling e.g. happy, tired, in pain, hungry.
- Play with sounds just for fun.
- Smile.
- Enjoy doing things again and again.

I like it when . . .

- You talk about the things we are doing together.
- You say, and do things, again and again.
- We play peek-a-boo, tickling and bouncing games.
- We sing songs.
- We look at books.
- We play with toys.

The information in this leaflet applies to any language a child is learning. Being bilingual is positive. Your child learns best when they have lots of opportunities to listen and talk.

Remember . . .

- It's you your toddler wants to hear not the TV.
- To try to have a special play time with your child each day.
- A dummy all day keeps talking away. Keep it for sleep time.

If by 15 months I . . .

- Don't seem to hear properly . . .
- Am very quiet and not making many attempts to say words . . .
- Don't use some gestures to show you what I mean e.g. pointing . . .
- Don't look when my name is called . . .

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Talking tips

**Sitters, standers
and explorers - 1**



9-15 months

Talk to me
I understand more than I can say.

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SureStart

I can . . .

- Understand some every day words e.g. “bye bye, mum”.
- Concentrate for a very short time.
- Understand where noises are coming from.
- Let you know what I want by pointing, gesturing and trying to say words.



I will . . .

- Enjoy babbling e.g. “dada”, “baba”.
- Try to say a few words, but I may not say them as clearly as you do.
- Make lots of noises such as “brmm brmm” instead of saying the word car.
- Shout to get your attention.
- Try to copy funny faces, actions and the sounds you make.

I like it when . . .

- You talk about the things we are doing.
- You sit down with me and play.
- We share books together.
- You copy me and do the things I do.

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If by 18 months I . . .



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- Don't seem to hear properly . . .
- Am very quiet and not saying at least 5 words . . .
- Don't seem to understand simple questions such as "Where is the ball?", "Get the car" and "Fetch your shoes" . . .

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Talking tips

Sitters, standers and Explorers - 2



12-18 months

Help me to learn new words.

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SureStart

I can . . .

- Understand what objects are for and how they are used e.g. hairbrush, cup.
- Now understand lots more words.
- Understand more than I can say.
- Concentrate for a few minutes on things I like doing.



I like it when . . .

- We sing songs with actions together.
- You give me time to say what I want to say.
- We share books.
- You show me that you understand what I am trying to say.
- You repeat my words so that others can understand e.g. I say “bibi” and you say “yes, a biscuit”.

I will . . .

- Say lots more words but I may not say them as clearly as you do.
- Know what is going to happen next.
- Tell you what I need and want.
- Either use one word to mean lots of things e.g. “dog” for all animals or to mean just our pet dog.

The information in this leaflet applies to any language a child is learning. Being bilingual is positive. Your child learns best when they have lots of opportunities to listen and talk.

Remember . . .

- It's good to watch TV together and choose suitable programmes.
- To try to have a special play time with your child (without the T.V. on to distract).
- A dummy all day keeps talking away. Keep it for sleep time or when your child is tired or ill.

If by 2 years I . . .

- Don't seem to hear properly.
- Say less than 20 words.
- Can't fetch two things when you ask me e.g. "get a teddy and your shoes".

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Talking tips

Movers, shakers and players



18-24 months

Help me to put two words together.

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I can . . .

- Fetch at least two things that you ask for e.g. “get your ball and book”.
- Point to parts of the body e.g. hair, feet.
- Point to lots of everyday objects or pictures when you name them.
- Say at least 50 to 100 words.
- Start to make up little sentences e.g. “more juice”, “kick ball”, “biscuit please”.



I will . . .

- Try to say lots of words but not always as clearly as you do.
- Learn through saying things over and over again.
- Copy things you do and say.
- Enjoy pretending to do the things you do e.g. talking on the phone, vacuuming and dusting.

The information in this leaflet applies to any language a child is learning. Being bilingual is positive. Your child learns best when they have lots of opportunities to listen and talk.

I like it when . . .

- We share books together.
- You give me time to talk.
- You listen to me.
- You help me to learn and say more e.g. I say “ball” you say “big ball” or “bouncy ball”.
- We talk together about the things we are doing.
- You talk about things I am interested in.
- We play together.

Remember . . .

- Choose TV programmes for young children e.g. ones with songs and simple stories.
- Watch these programmes with your child and talk about what's happening
- SWITCH the TV off to have quiet times with your child.
- Your child learns language during everyday activities.
- A dummy all day keeps talking away.
- Some children may repeat sounds or words e.g. "I want, I want, I want juice". This often stops as the child develops.

If by 36 months I . . .

- Don't seem to hear properly . . .
- Still talk using single words and two words together e.g. "more juice". . .
- Can't bring you two objects on request e.g. "get me the teddy and ball". . .
- Can't get you to understand most of what I say . . .
- Become upset or my family are worried when I repeat sounds or words . . .

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Talking tips

Walkers, talkers and pretenders



24-36 months

Help me to put more words together and then we can really begin to chat.

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I can . . .

- Understand longer instructions e.g. “Put on your shoes and get your coat”.
- Understand more than I can say.
- Understand big and little e.g. “Where’s the little doll?” or “Where’s the big chair?”.
- Talk using at least 2-4 words e.g. “daddy gone work”, “me drewed that car”.
- Usually speak clearly enough for close family and friends to understand me.

The information in this leaflet applies to any language a child is learning. Being bilingual is positive. Your child learns best when they have lots of opportunities to listen and talk.



I will . . .

- Still find it hard to say some sounds e.g. “spoon” may sound like poon.
- Still make mistakes with some words e.g. I may say “mans” for men and “sitted” for sat.
- Still miss out small words e.g. for that car is going fast, I will say “car go fast”.
- Still find it hard to understand things that are not happening now e.g. “we are going to grandma’s tomorrow”.
- Sit and look at a book with you for five minutes

I like it when . . .

- You answer my questions.
- You tell me more e.g. I say “that car” and you say “that car is going fast”.
- You talk to me about what we’re doing and why e.g. “you need to put your coat on because it’s cold outside”.
- You include me in everyday activities e.g. “let’s find four big bananas”.
- You repeat my words so that others can understand e.g. I say “poon” and you say “yes it’s a spoon”.
- We sing songs and share books together.

Remember . . .

- To try to have a special play time with your child each day.
- It's you your child wants to hear not just the TV.
- Your child does not need to have a dummy.

If by 48 months . . .

- I don't seem to hear properly . . .
- I don't use any different words . . .
- I only use three words together e.g. "mum go shop". . .
- My family and close friends can't understand what I am trying to say . . .
- I don't understand simple concepts such as "big/little" or position words such as "in" or "under". . .

Please contact your Health Visitor.



Talking tips

Runners, thinkers and sharers



36-48 months

I love to chat with you, please help me to get my sentences right.

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At 36 months

I can . . .

- Understand sentences with up to 4 key words e.g. “Fetch the big blue teddy” or “Get your shoes from under the bed”.
- Select the things I want to listen to.
- Concentrate for a few minutes on the things I have chosen to concentrate on.
- Use past and present tenses.
- Use talking for different purposes e.g. bargaining, asking questions.



At 48 months

I can . . .

- Understand more complex sentences.
- Understand comments such as “in a minute”.
- Begin to understand sentences such as “pull your socks up’ and “under the weather”.

I will . . .

- Be able to shift the focus of my attention from one activity to another.
- Still use some words that don't sound just like yours.
- Enjoy listening to stories.
- Learn more from the TV if you watch with me and talk about the things that we are watching.

I like it when . . .

- We talk and play together.
- You take me on outings and we explore new places such as the park or going shopping.
- We play simple games together such as hide and seek or picture lotto.
- You let me join in your activities at home like helping with the washing up, cooking and cleaning.