



Key Area: Oral Language Skills

Speech and Language Developmental Milestones

Now that I am 3 years old... I should be able to;

Tips For Home

- Talk about experiences and places before you go, while you are there and when you get home.
- Look at your child when they talk to you.
- Let them do things for themselves but be there to guide them if they get frustrated.
- Give them opportunities to play with other children.

Causes For Concern

- Your child is frustrated when trying to talk.
- They have a very short attention span.
- They are still using sentences of only 2 words.
- They do not seem to understand what others say.
- Your child does not look at others when talking.
- They stutter or words seem to get stuck when they talk.

Should you have any concerns about your child's development, consult a Speech Pathologist.

Understanding/Listening

- Follow complex instructions, eg: "Find the cup and put it in the red bucket."
- Understand what objects are used for, eg: "Show me something that we can eat."
- Understand simple 'wh' questions, eg: "What is this?", "Where's dolly?"
- Understand basic concepts of size (big/small), position (in/on/under) and shapes (circle/square)
- Identify parts of objects, eg: wheels on a car, legs on a dog

Speaking

- Use verbal language as my main means of communicating. I still use pointing and gesture as well.
- Understand yes/no questions
- Ask 'why' questions
- Be understood by my family members and others when I speak
- I enjoy reading books to others and telling stories
- Say my full name, eg: John Smith
- Count to three
- Use 'I', 'he', 'she', 'we' when talking about myself and others
- Use 's' at the end of words when talking about more than one item, eg: 'two dogs'
- Talk about events that have occurred or are going to occur

Play and Social Skills

- Have favourite books, TV programmes and toys
- Demonstrate imaginative play. I like dressing up
- Role play what I see others doing, eg: washing up, driving a car

Pre-Literacy

Start to notice and focus on print, eg: I start to show interest in signs/labels, may recognize books by their title, look at books from front to back and left to right