### HEARING CHECKLIST FOR PARENTS

#### STAGES OF HEARING, LANGUAGE, AND SPEECH DEVELOPMENT

**FROM BIRTH TO 5 YEARS CHECKLIST**

**Please use this checklist!** Look at your checklist often. Find your child's age level. Check Yes or No for every item. If your child does not pass any two items within an age level, call your doctor to make an appointment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Level</th>
<th>Hearing and Understanding</th>
<th>Check One</th>
<th>Speech</th>
<th>Check One</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Birth to 3 months | • Gives a startle response to loud, sudden noises within 3 feet  
• Calms to a familiar, friendly voice  
• Wakes up when you speak or make noise nearby. | Yes/No    | • Coos and gurgles.  
• Laughs and uses voice when playing.  
• Watches your face when spoken to. | Yes/No    |
| 3 to 6 months  | • Looks to see where sounds come from.  
• Becomes frightened by an angry voice.  
• Smiles when spoken to.  
• Likes to play with toys or objects that make noise. | Yes/No    | • Babbles (uses a series of sounds).  
• Makes at least 4 different sounds when using his or her voice.  
• Babbles to people when they speak. | Yes/No    |
| 6 to 9 months  | • Turns and looks to you when you are speaking in a quiet voice.  
• Waves when you say “bye-bye.”  
• Stops for a moment when you say “no-no.”  
• Looks at objects or pictures when someone talks about them. | Yes/No    | • Babbles using “song-like tunes.”  
• Uses voice to get your attention instead of crying.  
• Uses different sounds and appears to be naming things. | Yes/No    |
| 9 to 12 months | • Points to or looks at familiar objects or people when asked to.  
• Looks sad when scolded.  
• Follows directions (“Open your mouth,” “Give me the ball”).  
• “Dances” and makes sounds to music. | Yes/No    | • Uses jargon (appears to be talking).  
• Uses consonant sounds like b, d, g, m, and n when talking.  
• Jabbers in response to a human voice, changes loudness of voice, and uses rhythm and tone. | Yes/No    |
| 12 to 18 months | • Points to body parts (hair, eyes, nose, mouth) when asked to.  
• Brings objects to you when asked.  
• Hears and identifies sounds coming from another room or from outside. | Yes/No    | • Gives one-word answers to questions.  
• Imitates many new words.  
• Uses words of more than one syllable with meaning (“bottle”).  
• Speaks 10 to 20 words. | Yes/No    |
| 18 to 24 months | • Understands simple “yes/no” questions.  
• Understands simple phrases with prepositions (“in the cup”).  
• Enjoys being read to and points to pictures when asked. | Yes/No    | • Uses his or her own first name.  
• Uses “my” to get toys and other objects.  
• Tells experiences using jargon and words.  
• Uses 2-word sentences like “my shoes,” “go bye-bye,” “more juice.” | Yes/No    |

**NOTE:** Be aware that babies between 12 to 15 months old say their first true words.

Flip chart over to see the checklist for 24 months to 5 years of age. ▶
### HEARING CHECKLIST FOR PARENTS
(continued from the other side)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Level</th>
<th>Hearing and Understanding</th>
<th>Check One</th>
<th>Speech</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24 to 30 months</td>
<td>• Understands negative statements (&quot;no more,&quot; &quot;not now&quot;).</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td>• Answers questions (&quot;What do you do when you are sleepy?&quot;).</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Selects objects according to size (big, little).</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Uses plural words (2 books, dogs).</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Follows simple directions (&quot;Get your shoes and socks&quot;).</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Speaks 100 to 200 words.</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 to 36 months</td>
<td>• Understands uses of objects (&quot;Show me what goes on your foot&quot;).</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td>• Uses question forms correctly (who? what? where? when?).</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Understands the concept of one and can hand you one of something (1 ball, 1 cookie).</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Uses negative forms (&quot;It is not,&quot; &quot;I can't&quot;).</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Correctly identifies boys and girls.</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Relates experiences using 4- to 5-word sentences.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 to 4 years</td>
<td>• Understands &quot;why&quot; questions (&quot;Why do you wash your hands?&quot;).</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td>• Uses different forms of action words (&quot;I play,&quot; &quot;I want to play,&quot; &quot;We played&quot;).</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Understands opposites like &quot;fast&quot; or &quot;slow.&quot;</td>
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<td>• Counts to 10.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>• Correctly selects objects according to color.</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Tells you about pictures in books or about a drawing (&quot;I made a purple flower&quot;).</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 to 5 years</td>
<td>• Understands size comparisons (big, bigger, biggest).</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
<td>• Speaks at least 1,500 words.</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Understands many pronouns (&quot;Give it to her,&quot; &quot;Give it to him&quot;).</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Says most sounds correctly except possibly &quot;s&quot; and &quot;th.&quot;</td>
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<td>• Follows a 2- to 3-step command (&quot;Go to the kitchen, get a cup, put it on the table&quot;).</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Talks freely to family and friends using full sentences that most people can understand.</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

**Do you hear me?**

This may be the most important question you ever answer for your baby.

- Babies learn to talk during their first years. Words help them share thoughts and feelings with the important people in their world.
- As your baby hears words, language and learning begin and speech develops.
- The checklist above and on the other side shows you how learning helps the speech development of your child.
- Watch your child grow through stages of normal hearing and speech development. Seek help immediately if your child is not developing according to the checklist.

**What can you do?**

- Some infants are born with normal hearing and later become deaf or hard of hearing. That is why you must continue to fill out the checklist.
- If you think your child has a hearing problem, do not delay. Seek help immediately.

**NOW...**

1. You know your child best. If you suspect a possible hearing loss, talk to your doctor about getting a hearing test.
2. For questions or more information, contact Texas Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (TEHDI).
   - Phone: 1-800-252-8023, ext. 7726 toll free
   - (Use relay option of your choice to call if needed.)
   - Email: tehdi@dshs.texas.gov
   - Website: www.dshs.texas.gov/tehdi

Source: Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. "Baby Do Your Hear Me?" (Factsheet) #1-323_8/17