Speech and Language Milestones 18 to 24 Months



From 18 to 24 months, your child:

- understands simple directions like "drink your juice"
- can show you body parts on himself/herself
- says names of things, actions, people's names
- starts to use two words together ("more milk", "car go") and by age 2 can say at least 50 words
- asks "what's that?" (may sound like "whadat" or "whatssat")
- speaks so that you can understand most words
- listens to stories with pictures
- carries on a "conversation" with himself/herself and dolls, animals or other toys (examples - sets the table, feeds a doll)

How you can help your child's speech and language grow:

- be a good speech model use correct words and phrases without correcting your child directly
- talk about new words such as "on", "under", "broken", "open", "jumping"
- read lots of books together let your child choose books that he/she likes
- play children's music and stories and listen with your child
- sing songs and recite nursery rhymes together
- · praise your child's efforts to communicate
- talk about new places and experiences before you go, while you are there, and when you get home
- expand what your child says if your child says "dog", you say "big dog"

Adapted with permission from material developed by First Words Preschool Speech and Language Program of Ottawa-Carleton led by Pinecrest-Queensway Health and Community Services.

Parents, trust your instincts and call us if you

- have questions or concerns about the way your child's speech and language skills are developing
- want to refer your child for a speech and language assessment
- want more information on other topics related to speech and language development



DON'T WAIT EARLY HELP MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

Call 519-272-8216 or 1-866-333-7716 and ask for small TALK

Visit our web site at www.smalltalkinfo.ca

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