

# Hearing & Speech Milestones

## Newborn Hearing Screening

Minnesota Newborn  
Screening program



Age	Typical Hearing/Speech Behavior
Birth to 3 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Startles to loud sounds</li> <li>• Quiets or smiles when spoken to</li> <li>• Seems to recognize your voice and quiets if crying</li> <li>• Increases or decreases sucking behavior in response to sound</li> <li>• Makes cooing sounds</li> <li>• Cries differently for different needs</li> <li>• Smiles</li> </ul>
3 to 6 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Looks or turns toward a new sound</li> <li>• Responds to changes in tone of your voice</li> <li>• Makes sounds when happy or upset</li> <li>• Enjoys rattles and other toys that make sounds</li> <li>• Babbling sounds more speech-like (such as ooh, aah, and ba-ba)</li> </ul>
6 to 12 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enjoys games like peek-a-boo and pat-a-cake</li> <li>• Responds to common sounds, someone's voice (even if not loud)</li> <li>• Knows words for common things (cup, shoe) and phrases ("bye-bye")</li> <li>• Imitates different speech sounds</li> <li>• Starts to respond to requests ("come here")</li> <li>• Looks at things or pictures when someone talks about them</li> <li>• Says one or two words ("bye-bye", "mama"), but may not be clear</li> </ul>
>12 months to 2 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Begins using 2 word together ("want more")</li> <li>• Uses many different sounds at the beginning of words</li> <li>• Can begin pointing to body parts when asked</li> <li>• Learns new words on a regular basis</li> </ul>

*\*Adapted from the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Academy of Audiology*