

## 18 TO 24 MONTHS

- Refers to self as “I” and knows full name.
- Combines 2 or more words, “*more juice*”, “*what’s that?*”
- Uses many different consonant sounds at the beginning of words, *b, g, m*
- Listens to simple stories and songs
- **By 24 months** uses 200-300 words and begins to use short sentences. Obeys simple directions. Likes to scribble and can ride a tricycle or kiddie car without pedals. Is usually very possessive with toys and uses “mine” often. Is in the “terrible two” stage. Routine is important. Has fear of parents’ leaving. Dawdles and resists going to bed. Is able to walk and kick a ball without support.

## 2 YEARS TO 3 YEARS

- Uses 2-3 word sentences and plurals. Has a vocabulary of 900 words.
- May attempt to sing simple songs and repeat 3 numbers.
- At 2 years, people can understand what the child says some of the time (25%-50%)
- At 3 years, people can understand what the child says most of the time (50%-75%)
- Follows two-step instructions, “*get the ball and put it on the table*”
- **By 3 years** has an increased attention span. Shows an interest in colors. Pedals tricycle. Can walk backward and jump in place. Swings and climbs. Feeds self well and can drink from a straw. Temper tantrums may result from toddler’s frustration in wanting to do everything for self. Begins to ask “Why?” Enjoys being read to and follow along in picture books. Is beginning to play and share with other children.

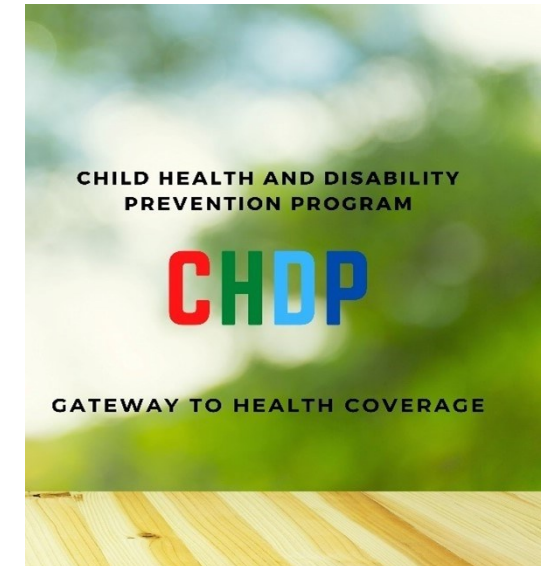


## 3 YEARS TO 5 YEARS (Between 3 and 5 years the child is a “pre-schooler”)

- Vocabulary increases from 1500 words to 2100 words by age 5 years.
- Drawings have form and meaning but no detail.
- Is learning to count.
- Asks many questions and can yell and shout in anger. Should understand simple explanation of cause and effect; “*if you jump off the roof you will break your leg*”
- Is beginning to understand what tomorrow and yesterday mean.
- **By age 5** able to help with simple task and chores at home. Knows primary colors, can count to 10 and can copy a triangle. Is asking lots of questions about everything. May have an imaginary companion. Participates in conversation and often talks constantly. Uses adult speech. Like to be read to but also will make up stories to go with pictures in a book. Enjoys playing with friends, shares and is often generous with toys. Has increased self-confidence as able to do more for self.

**If you have any concern about your baby or child’s hearing, contact your doctor or health care provider. Hearing can be tested at any age.**

# Ages and Stages



**CHDP**  
**Child Health and Disability**  
**Prevention Program**  
**1430 Freedom Blvd, Ste A**  
**Watsonville, CA 95076**  
**831-763-8100**  
**831-763-8410 (fax)**

### **BIRTH TO 3 MONTHS**

- Reacts to loud sounds; *baby startles, blinks, stops sucking, cries or wakes up*
- If bell is sounded near the baby; *will stop activity and listen.*
- Makes soft sounds when awake; *baby gurgles, "aah", "ngah"*
- Recognizes and quiets to familiar faces, voices, or sounds and smiles at social contact.
- **By 3 months** when lying on belly the baby will rest on forearms, keep head midline and make crawling movements with arms and legs, arches back and holds head high. Shows repetition in play activity. Has discovered own hands and will hold objects like a rattle and will put it in mouth. Will turn head to follow a familiar person.



### **3 TO 6 MONTHS**

- Turns eyes or head toward sounds, *voices, noise making toys, dog barking*
- May show displeasure if social contact is broken. Excited at the sight of food.
- Starts to make speech like sounds and will laugh and chuckle socially; *"ga", "ooh", "ba" and p, b, m sounds*
- Reacts to a change in your tone of voice
- Listens – will turn head toward a familiar sound
- **By 6 months** the baby can grasp objects with both hands and everything goes into it's mouth. Is actively interested in surroundings. Usually sleeps through the night and has a regular nap-time. Begins to respond to *"No, no"*. Intentionally rolls over, back to side and sits with minimal support.

### **6 TO 9 MONTHS**

- Responds to own name and looks when called.
- Understands simple words, *"no", "bye-bye", "juice"*
- Crows and squeals. Laughs out loud. Babbles, *"da da da", "ma ma ma", "ba ba ba"*
- Makes "talking" sounds in response to other's talking.
- **By 9 months** will search for lost objects that are out of sight. Inspects objects and localizes sounds. Likes to sit in highchair. Will drop and pick up objects. Likes to "play" in food. Exhibits beginning fear of strangers and becomes fretful when mother leaves. Likes to put everything into mouth and chew on it. Discovers feet. Rolls over well and may begin to crawl.



### **9 TO 12 MONTHS**

- Responds to either soft or loud sound and will respond to music.
- Repeats single words and will imitate gestures, facial expressions and animal sounds.
- Points to favorite toys or foods when asked.
- Shows more interest in picture books.
- **By 12 months** will begin to stand-alone and toddle and cruise around furniture. Sits without support. Can hold and eat a cracker and will hold own bottle. Can drink from a cup. Has strong urge toward independence in mobility, feeding and dressing. Enjoys being the center of attention and will repeat laughed-at activities. Has increased attention span and will display intense determination to remove barrier to action and to reach new goals.



### **12 TO 18 MONTHS**

(Between age 1 and 3 years the child has become a "toddler".

- Uses 10 or more words, uses phrases and imitates words
- Follows simple spoken directions and requests; *"get the ball"*
- Points to people, body parts toys or pictures when asked
- *"Dances"* to music
- **By 18 months** will walk without support and fall less frequently. Can walk up stairs but is slow to come downstairs. Is developing new awareness of strangers. Wants to explore everything in reach. Will play alone but likes to be near others. Stoops to pick up toys or other object of interest. Is beginning to feed self with a spoon but can hold and tip a cup to drink.