

EARLY COMMUNICATION SKILLS AT 0-6 MONTHS



Play Skills/Social Skills

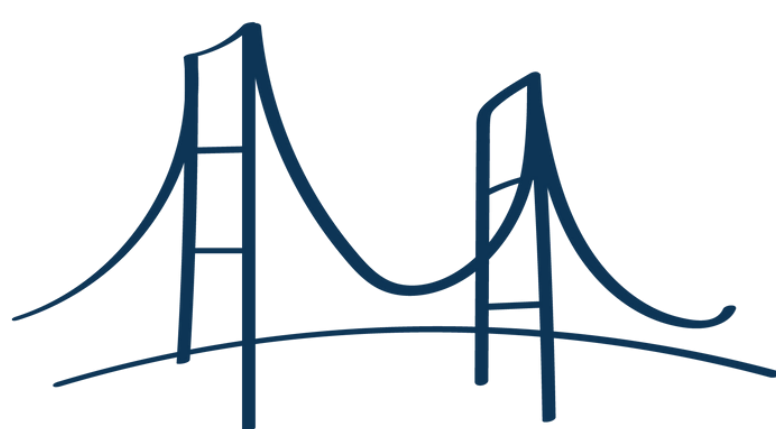
- Smiles when playing alone
- Laughs at amusing activities
- Bangs objects together
- Attempts to interact with an adult
- Imitates facial expressions
- Takes turns vocalizing

Speech Skills

- Coos (vowel sounds)
- Early developing consonant sound examples: p, m, b, and d

Language Skills

- Produces different cries for different reasons
- Vocalizes to caregiver's smile and voice
- Vocalizes to express displeasure
- Babbles (consonant-vowel combinations)
- Recognizes own name
- Turns head toward voices



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EARLY COMMUNICATION SKILLS AT 6-12 MONTHS



Play Skills/Social Skills

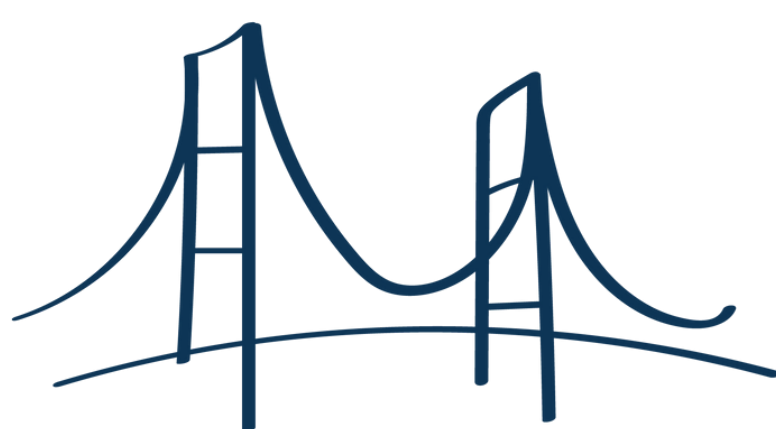
- Smiles and laughs during games
- Interacts with objects without mouthing or banging them
- Shows a desire to be with people
- Exchanges gestures with an adult

Speech Skills

- Vocalizes four different syllables
- Vocalizes two-syllable combinations
- Imitates basic syllables (“booboo”)

Language Skills

- Uses gesture and vocalization to communicate
- Waves in response to “bye-bye”
- Says “mama” or “dada” meaningfully
- Imitates the name of familiar objects
- Says 1-2 words independently/spontaneously
- Responds to a request to “come here”
- Stops when their name is called
- Identifies two body parts



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Enrichment Therapy and Learning Center's mission is to give hope and support to families by helping children of all ages achieve their God-given potential. We provide an individualized approach to improve each child's ability to communicate, socialize and achieve academic growth. We are a bridge for success.

**ASK ABOUT A
FREE SCREENING**

515-419-4270

5530 West Pkwy, Ste 300
Johnston, IA 50131

319-626-2553

740 Community Drive, Unit A
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HOW SHOULD MY 1-YEAR-OLD BE SPEAKING AND COMMUNICATING?



Play Skills/Social Skills

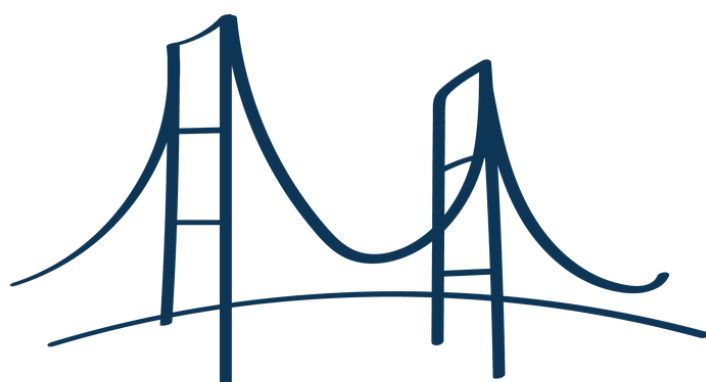
- Imitates other children
- Initiates turn-taking routines

Speech Skills

- p, m, b, and all vowel sounds are typically acquired by age two

Language Skills

- Says 8-10 meaningful words by 15 months
- Asks for more
- Identifies 6 body parts or clothing items
- Understands some prepositions (in, on, out)
- Responds to basic one-step commands ("give me", "sit down")
- Points to 2 action words in pictures and starts to understand the meaning of action words



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HOW SHOULD MY 2-YEAR-OLD BE SPEAKING AND COMMUNICATING?



Play Skills/Social Skills

- Engages in pretend play
- Engages in parallel play (playing next to other kids)
- Stacks and assembles toys and objects
- Shares toys with other children

Speech Skills

- Says all vowel sounds
- Regularly uses p, b, and m sounds

Language Skills

- Can follow 2-3 step related commands
- Understands the concepts of “one” and “all”
- Names 1 color
- Regularly uses 2-3 word phrases
- Answers “yes/no” questions correctly
- Gives directions and asks basic WH-questions (who, what, where)
- Uses 200-300 words



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Individual sessions may focus
on the following:

- Improve speech sound production
- Increase language abilities with following directions, attending to tasks, and communicating in a more effective way
- Improve turn taking and play skills
- Increase vocabulary by naming objects, colors, numbers, and more

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HOW SHOULD MY 3-YEAR-OLD BE SPEAKING AND COMMUNICATING?



Play Skills/Social Skills

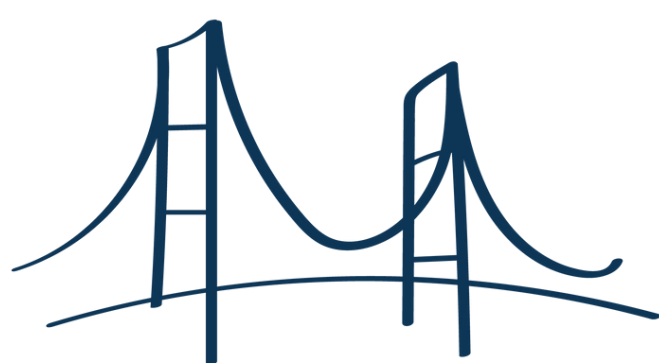
- Plays cooperatively with other children
- Pretends to be something or someone else
- Takes turns during games

Speech Skills

- Says all vowel sounds
- Regularly uses p, b, m, h, n, k, g, w, d, and t sounds
- Speech is approximately 75% understandable

Language Skills

- Can follow 3 step unrelated commands without cueing
- Understands size concepts (big, small)
- Understands and names basic colors
- Asks "why" questions
- Understands basic spatial terms (in, on, under, etc.)
- Uses words like "a," "the," and "am" in sentences
- Uses regular past tense verbs (jumped, played, etc.)



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HOW SHOULD MY 4-YEAR-OLD BE SPEAKING AND COMMUNICATING?



Play Skills/Social Skills

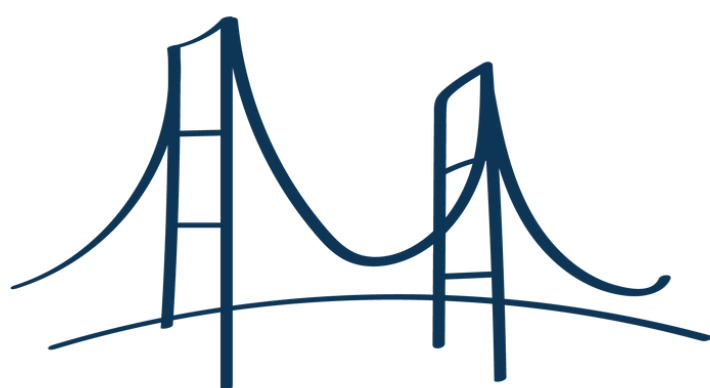
- Expresses empathy
- Creates imaginary roles or props in play
- Maintains conversational topics

Speech Skills

- Says all vowel sounds
- Regularly uses p, b, m, h, n, k, g, w, d, t, s, z, f, v, and y sounds
- Speech is approximately 90% understandable

Language Skills

- Answers “when” and “how” questions
- Understands basic shapes (circle, square, triangle)
- Uses 4-5 word sentences regularly
- Beginning to learn letter and number names
- Can tell you about what happened in the past
- Beginning to tell stories that have a plot



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Individual sessions may focus
on the following:

- Improve speech sound production
- Increase language abilities with following directions, attending to tasks, and communicating in a more effective way
- Improve turn taking and play skills
- Increase vocabulary by naming objects, colors, numbers, and more
- Improve social skills with small group sessions

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