


Speech Sound Development 0-12 months

What to expect	What you can do
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Babies should be making cooing sounds by 3 months • From 3-6 months, babies are typically laughing and attempting to interact with an adult • Vocal play – e.g. raspberries and squealing by 4-6 months • Simple, marginal babbling observed by 4-6 months (e.g. ba/ma/da/um) • 6-12 months - babbling becomes more complex with a greater range of speech sounds for e.g. reduplicated syllables like mama/bubba/dada • By approximately 10 months, babies are communicating through speaking in jargon, i.e. babbling with intonation that sounds like talking • 9-12 months, babies are vocalising with intent frequently and are beginning to imitate the names for familiar objects • First words typically emerge at 12 months • Early words tend to contain easy sounds such as ‘m, n, p, b, d, t, w and h’ • 25% of a toddler’s speech by 18 months should be understood by an adult unfamiliar listener • Between 19-24 months, children should be 25-50% intelligible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage a baby to babble. Say sounds like "ma," "da," and "ba" When your baby babbles, respond by imitating their babbling sounds • Facilitate eye contact by getting down to your child’s level to enable face to face communication as you speak to them and make sounds • Take turns talking back to your baby and pretend to have a conversation, allowing them to have time to talk before you respond to what they said • Sing songs and nursery rhymes in a fun and engaging way • Make animal and environmental sounds such as ‘car sounds’ in play with your child e.g. ‘sssss’ for snake sounds, ‘shhh’ for sleeping, ‘mmm’ for yummy food etc. • Have some toys that are associated with sounds in front of your child. Make the sound and see if they can find the right toy. E.g. ‘oink’- pig, ‘baaa’-sheep, ‘woof’-dog, ‘neenor’- fire engine, ‘beep’-car <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 20px;">  </div>

