

First words

Talk to your child using the language you would naturally use at home. If your child is not doing what is shown for their age, look for help: talk to your health visitor, GP or contact your local speech and language therapist directly. For advice and further information, visit:



5 years

www.talkingpoint.org.uk



- Baby watches your tace when you talk to them close up
- They are playing with sounds. You hear noises like, "Bababa"
- Starting to understand. lot, such as "Bye bye" and "Milk"
- Top Tip

Talk to Baby when doing things together - changing nappies. feeding or taking them out

Top Tip

Help Baby to listen by turning off the TV when you talk and play with them

Baby will be using

- The new words they

adult words yet

They can do what

use will not sound like

you ask them when you

use simple sentences.

"Give it to mummy."

simple words

anytime now

- Toddlers will now start to join words together, "Teddy gone"
- They can find things that you ask for - pictures in books or toys in the room
- When your toddler talks to you, help them by reflecting back what you understand. Them: "Cat." You: "Yes. the cat's sleeping"

Top Tip

look for help

Top Tip

If your toddler is not using Help to develop word any words or if they don't sounds by repeating seem to understand you, your child's words back. Them: "Dod." You:

- Children now understand longer sentences, "Your shoes are upstairs"
- Startina to use lots of single words (up to 200), building short 2 to 4 word sentences
- They are using and understanding new words every day

"Yes, it's a dog"

Top Tip

Give your child plenty of time to speak. Don't draw their attention to any difficulties they seem to have

- People who haven't met your child before will be able to understand their words
- Children are askina lots of questions, especially "Why?" questions
- They can talk about things they have done and will do

Top Tip

Comment on what your child is doing rather than asking them lots of questions

- Children can now easily turn their attention to you, even if they are playing
- They will understand longer and more complicated sentences, "Find the orange and black pens"
- Most adult word sounds are now used

Top Tip

Look for help if people cannot understand your child, or if your child understands or uses only simple words and sentences





Sentences used get

longer and more

complicated, "I'm

gonna get a toy car"

Children still find some

word sounds difficult ie.

r, w, l, y, f, th, s, sh, ch, j

- Children may stumble

over their words and

expected at this age

sentences. This is

going to Nana's and I'm





