

Speech & Language Milestones

AGE 4



LANGUAGE

Receptive Language

- Understands complex sentences
- Follows 2-3-step directions at home and school.
- Understands simple questions about activities & environment
- Listens to 5-7 line story and answers concrete & abstract wh-questions.
- Understands time, spatial, & opposite concepts
- Understands pronouns

Expressive Language

- Retells simple stories with full sentences
- Speaks in complete sentences
- Asks questions
- Uses past-tense, third person singular, articles (a, the), negation, uncontractible / contractible auxiliary, & contractible copula.
- Uses compound sentences with conjunctions

Pragmatic Language

- Understands simple conversation rules
- Repairs communicative breakdowns with peers
- Resolves social conflict with words
- Modifies speech to the age of the listener.

SPEECH

- Early consonants should all be produced accurately
- "W" may be substituted for "R" at this time
- S, Z, SH, ZH may be inaccurate but should not be produced interdental or laterally
- CH, J, TH should be emerging
- Speech is understood by all communication partners

LITERACY & PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS

Early Reading

- Begins to pay attention to specific print
- Recognizes logos and other print that carries a message
- Talks about characters in a book
- Like to "read" to themselves & others

Phonological Awareness

- Understanding of rhyme continues to develop, able to produce rhyming words
- Participates in rhyming games
- Begins to isolate sounds in words
- Identifies some letters and makes letter/sound matches.

