


Checklist of Social-Emotional, Play and Communication Skills

Age	Signs	Answer	Questions to Ask
4 months	Follows and reacts to bright colors? Turns towards sounds? Shows interest in faces? Smiles back when you smile?	Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No	When you walk up to your child what does he/she do? When you make a silly sound what does your child do?
6 months	Relates to you with real joy? Smiles often when playing? Coos or babbles when happy? Cries when unhappy?	Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No	
9 months	Smiles and laughs when looking at you? <u>Exchanges</u> back and forth smiles, loving and other facial expressions? <u>Exchanges</u> back and forth sounds with you? <u>Exchanges</u> back and forth gestures such as giving, taking and reaching?	Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No	
12 months	Uses a few gestures for a variety of needs? Plays social games? Makes sounds like, ma, ba, no, da? Turns to their name being called?	Yes No Yes No Yes No	What kinds of gestures does the child use? (head shake/nod, rolling eyes, shrugging shoulders) Does your child play patty cake or peek-a-boo? What sounds does your child make? Please call your child's name.

15 months	<p><u>Exchange</u> many back and forth smiles, sounds and gestures? Uses a point to show interest in something? Use different sounds to get needs met and get attention? Use and understand at least 3 words?</p>	<p>Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No</p>	<p>What words does your child use: and understand?: If your child doesn't know or have a word for something they want how do they let you know? Do they point at objects to show or request?</p>
18 months	<p>Use gestures <u>with</u> words to get needs met? Use at least 4 different consonants? Use and understand at least 10 words? Show understanding of familiar people, or body parts? Do simple pretend play like feed a doll? Try to attract your attention by looking up at you?</p>	<p>Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No</p>	<p>How does your child let you know what he/she wants? Please list the words your child says consistently. Please tell me the words your child uses: And understands. What toys does he/she play with and <u>how</u> does he play with them?</p>
24 months	<p>Pretend play with more than one action (e.g. feed and burp baby)? Use and understand at least 50 words? Use at least 2 words together? Enjoy being next to other children the same age and show interest? Look for familiar objects when the objects are out of sight?</p>	<p>Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No</p>	<p>Continue the list of words from the 18 month visit. At your last family gathering what did your child do? What were your child's reactions to his/her presents at their last birthday party? What wh-questions can he/she answer? If you ask your child to get you something from another room can he/she?</p>
36 months	<p>Enjoy pretending to</p>		<p>Does your child use</p>

	play different characters with talking?	Yes	No	different voices and pretend to be other characters when playing?
	Enjoy telling peers about favorite toys?	Yes	No	Does your child “show off” or ask you to “watch me” regularly?
	Uses thought and action words together?	Yes	No	Does your child combine words like “baby sleeping or “no more milk”?
	Answers simple wh-questions?	Yes	No	Can your child answer what, where or who questions?
	Talks about past and future thoughts?	Yes	No	Can you child tell you something that happened in his/her day or what he/she would like to do tomorrow or later?

RED FLAGS

- No big smiles or other joyful expressions by 6 months or later.
- No back and forth sharing of sounds, smiles or other facial expressions by 9 months of after.
- No babbling by 12 months.
- No back and forth gestures such as pointing, showing, reaching or waving by 12 months.
- No words by 16 months.
- No 2-word meaningful phrases (without imitating or repeating) by 24 months.
- ANY loss of speech or babbling or social skills at ANY age.

IF AT ANY WELL-CHILD CHECK THE PARENTS EXPRESS SPEECH OR SOCIAL CONCERNS AND/OR THEY ANSWER “NO” TO ANY OF THE QUESTIONS ABOVE DURING THAT VISIT ---- PLEASE UTILIZE THE M-CHAT (12-18 MONTHS OR OLDER) AND CONSIDER REFERRAL TO RULE-OUT AN AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER.

Adapted from the First Signs developmental information: www.firstsigns.org

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