



Listening and talking

Deafly at 3-6 months

- Listens to everyday sounds and people's voices.
- Makes sounds when people talk to them (e.g. ahh, ooh).
- Makes sounds to communicate 'happy' or 'upset'.

Deafly at 6-9 months

- Copies sounds and actions (e.g. blowing raspberries, pointing, showing, waving).
- Understands words e.g. 'bye-bye', 'no'.
- Starting to use long strings of babble (e.g. bu-bu, ma-ma, da-da).

Deafly at 9-12 months

- Listens and follows sounds (e.g. turns head to search unseen sound).
- Uses gestures (e.g. waves 'bye-bye').
- Shows what they want by pointing and making sounds.
- Babbles loudly in repetitive strings that sound like they are 'talking' (babudu, agagmu).
- Tries to copy words and sounds.
- Enjoys repetitive rhymes and songs.

Deafly at 12-18 months

- Understands and responds to simple requests (e.g. child passes something in response to 'Ta').
- Learns new words everyday.
- Starting to use some words with meaning (e.g. mama, dada, cup, car).
- Enjoys simple picture books and points to pictures.
- By 18 months understands many words and short requests (e.g. 'show me the ball').

Deafly at 2 years

- Consistently learns new words.
- Says at least two word sentences (e.g. 'push car', 'throw big ball Daddy').
- Understands two-step instructions (e.g. get your teddy and give me a cuddle).
- Listens and pays attention to stories and books.

Deafly at 3 years

- Uses at least three words together to have a simple conversation (e.g. 'car go down', 'mummy read book now').
- Familiar people understand speech most of the time.
- Can follow three step instructions (e.g. 'bring ball and book and come to mummy').
- Can say how they feel (e.g. happy, sad, angry).

Deafly at 4 years

- Can have a conversation.
- Can tell a story about past or future events.
- Uses words for people such as 'I', 'you', 'he' and 'she'.
- Speech can be understood by people outside the family.
- Understands words for a wide range of feelings (e.g. sad, excited, happy, scared).
- Follows instructions containing 'in', 'out', 'beside' (e.g. 'put the ball beside the door').

Deafly at 5 years

- Can communicate well with only a few grammatical errors.
- Follows instructions with multiple parts (e.g. 'find your hat and shoes and let's play outside').
- Able to answer questions that start with 'where', 'what', 'who', 'why'.
- Creates imaginative stories in pretend play.



If you have any health concerns, please visit your local health centre.



Queensland
Government