

Checklist for Speech and Language Development: 3 – 4 Years

Expressive Language

Can your child:

- Use sentences to ask questions, answer questions, describe events and make comments.
- Use basic pronouns such as 'he' and 'she'.
- Use simple joining words such as 'and' or 'then'.
- Use regular plurals and verb tenses e.g. 'two cars', 'I walked'.
- Use a variety of words types including determiners (a, the), prepositions, regular verbs, adjectives and nouns.
- Ask 'who' and 'why' questions.

If your child scored **X** on 2-3 of the areas above, he/she may be presenting with an expressive language delay. Please speak to your teacher, GP or Speech Pathologist to book in a Speech and Language Assessment.

Receptive Language

Can your child:

- Remember something that happened in his/her day.
- Identify emotions in pictures.
- Identify common household items, animals and sea animals.
- Recall and repeat 6-8 word sentences using repetition.
- Follow 1-2 part instructions using 'all', 'next to', 'before' and 'big' concepts e.g. 'Put the ball **next to** the bin'
- Respond to 'who', 'what' and 'where' questions.

If your child scored **X** on 2-3 of the areas above, he/she may be presenting with an expressive language delay. Please speak to your teacher, GP or Speech Pathologist to book in a Speech and Language Assessment.

Speech Sounds

Can your child clearly produce the following sounds?

- /p/ /b/ /f/
- /t/ /d/ /w/
- /k/ /g/ /y/

If your child can't produce any of these sounds → Speak to a Speech Pathologist.

Stuttering

Repeats words e.g. "Wh...Wh... Where is it?", prolongs words e.g. "Wwherre..." or blocks words e.g. "Wh_ is it?" → Speak to a Speech Pathologist.

Voice

Voice is husky, hoarse, too low/high in volume or runs out of breath whilst talking → Speak to a Speech Pathologist.

