

## **Red flags for language development**

### *0-3 months*

Excessive “tuning out” of surroundings  
Lack of awareness of sound  
Lack of awareness of environment  
Cry undifferentiated, problems sucking/swallowing

### *3-6 months*

Cannot focus, easily over stimulated  
Lack of awareness of sound, no turning to sound  
Lack of awareness of environment

### *6-9 months*

Infant does not appear to understand or enjoy the social rewards of interaction  
No babbling or babbling words with few or no consonant sounds.

### *9-12 months*

Infant does not jointly participate in interactions (e.g. does not use eye contact, does not engage adults with gestures or vocalizations)  
Infant does not appear to recognize that adults can be used to get things done.

### *12-18 months*

Same concerns as in 9-12 months  
Does not attempt to spontaneously use words or imitate words  
Child is more interested in objects and less interested in people.  
Child does not persist in communication, and gives up if the adult does not respond immediately

### *18-24 months*

Same as concerns in 12-18 months  
Reliance on gestures without vocalization  
Labeling of objects in place of commenting or gesturing  
Less than 50 words or does not put two words together by 24 months

### *24-36 months*

Frequent tantrums when not understood  
Echoing words the child hears  
Few or no multi-word utterances  
Does not demand a response from the listener  
Does not ask questions like “what?” or “why?”

## **Red Flags for Hearing Loss**

Parent/caregiver concern regarding hearing, speech, language or developmental delay  
Recurrent or persistent ear infections with effusion for at least three months  
Family history of hereditary childhood sensorineural hearing loss  
In utero infection: cytomegalovirus, rubella, syphilis, herpes or toxoplasmosis  
Craniofacial abnormalities including morphological abnormalities of the outer ear and ear canal  
Birth weight of less than 1500 grams  
Severe jaundice requiring transfusion  
Ototoxic medications  
Bacterial meningitis  
Apgar scores of 0-4 at one minute or 0-6 at five minutes  
Mechanical ventilation lasting five days or longer  
Syndrome known to include sensorineural or conductive hearing loss  
Head trauma associated with loss of consciousness or skull fracture

(from Lisa Mancl, M.S. Audiologist, CHDD)

## **Red flags for Eating and Drinking**

Ongoing poor weight gain (percentiles falling) or weight loss  
Ongoing choking, gagging or coughing during meals  
Ongoing problems with vomiting  
More than one incident of nasal reflux  
History of traumatic choking incident  
History of eating and breathing coordination problems, with ongoing respiratory issues  
Inability to transition to baby food purees by 10 months of age  
Inability to accept any table food solids by 12 months of age  
Inability to transition from breast/bottle to a cup by 16 months of age  
Has not weaned off baby foods by 16 months of age  
Aversion or avoidance of all foods in specific texture or food group  
Food range of less than 20 foods, especially if foods are being dropped over time with no new foods replacing those lost  
An infant who cries and/or arches at most meals  
Family is fighting about food and feeding (i.e. Meals are battles)  
Child is difficult to feed for a variety of people

(from Kay A Toomey, Ph.D)