



World Health Organization



Suspect hearing loss, if your child did not reach the milestone. **See a healthworker or doctor at the earliest.**

## LOOK OUT FOR THE HEARING AND LANGUAGE MILESTONES AND ACT EARLY!

Hearing loss can be identified at any age. Remember, early identification of hearing loss followed by prompt rehabilitation is essential to minimize communication difficulties in a child.



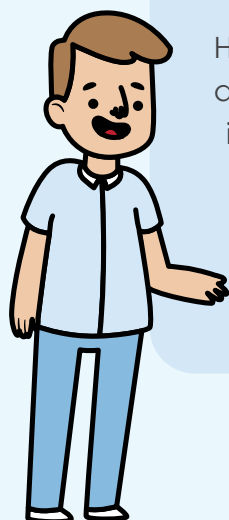
World Health Organization

## HEARING AND LANGUAGE MILESTONES IN CHILDREN

© World Health Organization 2023. Some rights reserved. This work is available under the CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO licence.

WHO/UCN/NCD/SDR 23.2

[https://www.who.int/health-topics/hearing-loss#tab=tab\\_1](https://www.who.int/health-topics/hearing-loss#tab=tab_1)



The development of hearing and language in children can be assessed through certain common developmental landmarks. These landmarks indicate healthy hearing. Their absence may indicate hearing loss.

## A child with normal hearing will:

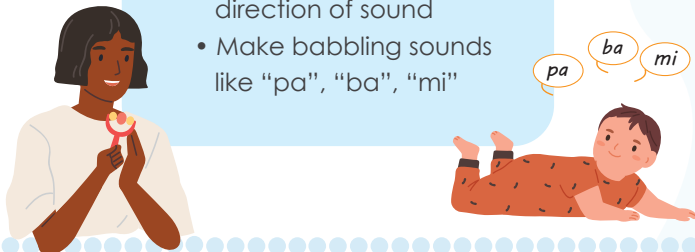
### By the age of three months:

- Respond to the mother's voice.
- Make cooing sounds.



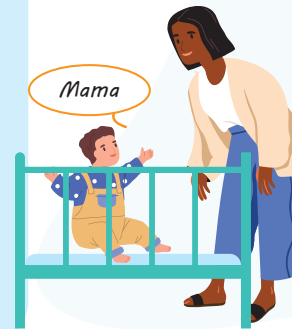
### By the age of six months:

- Move eyes in the direction of sound
- Make babbling sounds like "pa", "ba", "mi"



### By the age of one year:

- Turn when someone calls by name and understand common words like 'water'
- Say single words like "mama", "dada".



### By the age of two years:

- Respond to simple questions like "Who's that?" and follows simple instructions like "Hold the toy"
- Put two words together such as "no bed" or "more apple"



### By the age of three years:

- Follow two-part instructions such as "Get the spoon and put on the table"
- Put three words together to talk about things

### By the age of four years:

- Understand words for family members, colours, shapes
- Answer simple "who", "what", and "where" questions



### By the age of five years:

- Hear most of what is said at home and in school
- Say names, letters and numbers

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	2	3	4	5	6	

