

EarlyWords

HAMILTON PRESCHOOL SPEECH AND LANGUAGE PROGRAM

There are two ways to refer your child for a speech and language assessment:

1. Phone our Intake Line - 905-381-2828 ext. 224

Cut-off date for referral: June 15

2. Complete our On Line Referral

- Go to www.ascy.ca
- Click on the Families tab
- Go to Preschool Speech and Language Program
- Go to Preschool Speech and Language Program Referral Form

Please note: If you are concerned that your child has other developmental challenges in addition to speech and language needs contact the Intake Office at Ron Joyce Children's Health Centre. Their number is 905-521-7950. Additional information on services and a copy of their referral can be found on their website:

<https://www.hamiltonhealthsciences.ca/mcmaster-childrens-hospital/areas-of-care/developmental-pediatrics-and-rehabilitation/>

All services are free provided by the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services.

Developmental Milestones

12 MONTHS:

- Gets your attention using sounds, gestures and pointing while looking at your eyes
- Uses 3 or more words
- Follows simple directions such as 'sit down'
- Waves 'bye bye'
- Brings you toys to show you
- Looks across the room to a toy when adult points at it

18 MONTHS

- Points to several body parts when asked
- Understands the concepts of 'in and out', 'off and on'
- Uses at least 20 words
- Enjoys being read to and looks at books
- Demonstrates some pretend play with toys- gives Teddy a drink

24 MONTHS

- Follows two step directions- 'Go find Teddy and show it to Grandma'
- Uses 100 or more words
- Uses some two word phrases-'Daddy hat', 'truck go'
- People can understand his/her words 50-60% of the time
- 'Reads' to stuffed animals

30 MONTHS

- Understands concepts of size -'big and little' and quantity-'a little or a lot'
- Uses more than 350 words, including action words, 'run, spill, fall'
- Puts sounds at the beginning of most words
- Combines action in play - feeds doll, puts her to bed or puts blocks in train, drives the train, and then drops blocks off
- Shows concern when another is hurt or sad

3 YEARS

- Understands 'who, what, where and why' questions
- Uses 5-8 word sentences about present or past events
- Shows affection for playmates
- Talks in a way that most people can understand
- Engages in multi-step pretend play- cook a meal, repair a car

4 YEARS

- Follows directions involving 3 or more steps
- Uses adult type grammar
- Tells stories with a beginning, middle and an end
- Is understood by strangers most of the time
- Matches some letters with their sounds, 'b says 'buh'
- Tries to solve problems with adults and other children