



If You Think Your Child Has a Hearing Loss

It is important that parents be aware of their child's hearing from the moment their child is born. A child's hearing can be affected by many things. Some children run a high risk of hearing loss due to certain medications, diseases or medications, heredity or perinatal complications, including rubella, syphilis, low birth weight, meningitis, and asphyxia. Toddlers and preschool-age children may acquire a temporary or permanent hearing loss with repeated middle ear infections. Older children may acquire a hearing loss with repeated exposure to loud noises such as loud music.

If you suspect your child has difficulty hearing, seek professional help immediately. Early attention to your child's hearing will help your child reach his or her full potential.

Here are a few guidelines to help you determine if your child's hearing is normal.

From birth to 3 months, the child should . . .



- startle or cry at loud noises
- stop moving and seem to listen to speech or sounds
- awaken at a loud sound



From 3 to 6 months, your child should . . .

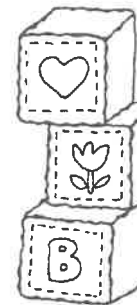


- look toward a sound or speaker
- smile when spoken to
- recognize mother's voice
- enjoy rattles and other toys that make sounds



From 6 to 9 months, your child should . . .

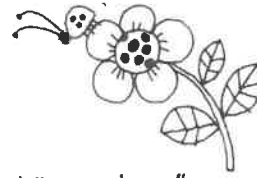
- respond to his or her name
- babble and make lots of different sounds
- respond to "no"





m 9 to 12 months, your child should . . .

- turn or look when his or her name is called
- listen to people talking
- respond to simple commands such as "give me," and "come here"
- understand "bye-bye"



m 12 to 18 months, your child should . . .

- point to objects or familiar people by name
- imitate simple sounds or words
- follow simple spoken directions
- say 2 to 3 words by 12 months and 8 to 10 words by 18 months



18 months, your child should . . .

- hear you call from another room
- hear and understand conversation easily
- hear TV or music at the same loudness level as everyone else
- hear quiet speech
- have normal voice qualities
- have normal verbal language development (vocabulary, speech sounds, sentence structure)
- show social rapport and emotional development appropriate for his or her age



Additional copies of this pad (#10390)
may be ordered from



8700 Shoal Creek Boulevard
Austin, Texas 78757-6897
800/897-3202 Fax 800/397-7633
www.proedinc.com

© 1987, 2002 by Mary Brooks & Deedra Hartung