

Quick look...

This table shows the basics children should be doing at each age - what they should be saying and understanding and how they should be taking part and interacting with others.



	6 months	1 Year	18 months	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years
Talk	Making noises	Making talking noises and often saying their first words	Saying words like “daddy”	Putting words together such as “bye bye mummy”	Putting 4 or 5 words together like “my daddy play football”	Asking lots of questions such as “why...”	Talking in more adult like sentences
Listen	Watching your face when you talk	Understanding simple words like “bye bye”	Understanding simple phrases such as “all gone”	Understanding simple questions like “Where’s baby?”	Listening and remembering simple stories with pictures	Understanding questions about a story “Who climbed the beanstalk?”	Understanding long and more complicated information like “first...and then...”
Take part	Smiling when you laugh	Taking turns in ‘conversations’ with babbling noises	Exploring and enjoying games like Peek-a-Boo	Enjoying pretending like talking on the phone	Enjoying having proper conversations	Planning more complicated games with others	Taking lots of turns in conversations

Taken from the booklet *Small Talk*, available from www.hello.org.uk/smalltalk