	Speech & Language	Hearing & Understanding
BY 3 MONTHS	◯ Makes eye contact ◯ Cries differently for different needs, e.g. hungry vs. tired ◯ Coos and smiles	◯ Turns head toward sound or voice ◯ Quiets or smiles in response to sound or voice ◯ Shows interest in faces
BY 6 MONTHS	◯ Begins to use consonant sounds in babbling, e.g. "da, da, da" ◯ Makes different kinds of sounds to express feelings ◯ Uses babbling to get attention	◯ Listens and responds when spoken to ◯ Reacts to sudden noises or sounds ◯ Notices toys that make sounds
BY 9 MONTHS	◯ Imitates sounds ◯ Uses increased variety of sounds and syllable combinations in babbling ◯ Participates in two-way communication	◯ Recognizes sound of their name ◯ Looks at familiar objects and people when named ◯ Follows some routine commands paired with gestures
BY 12 MONTHS	◯ Meaningfully uses "mama" or "dada" ◯ Imitates speech sounds ◯ Babbling has sounds and rhythms of speech	◯ Responds to "no" ◯ Responds to simple directions, e.g. "come here" ◯ Pays attention to where you are looking and pointing
BY 15 MONTHS	◯ May use 5-10 words ◯ Imitates simple words and actions ◯ Combines sounds and gestures	◯ Consistently follows simple directions ◯ Shows interest in pictures ◯ Can identify 1-2 body parts when named
BY 18 MONTHS	◯ Repeats words overheard in conversation ◯ Responds to questions ◯ Continues to produce speech-like babbling	◯ Points at familiar objects and people in pictures ◯ Understands "in" and "on" ◯ Responds to yes/no questions with head shake/nod
BY 21 MONTHS	◯ Uses at least 50 words ◯ Consistently imitates new words ◯ Names objects and pictures	◯ Understands simple pronouns (me, you, my) ◯ Understands new words quickly ◯ Identifies 3-5 body parts when named
BY 24 MONTHS	◯ Uses gestures and words during pretend play ◯ Begins to use 2-word phrases ◯ Uses simple pronouns (me, you, my)	◯ Understands action words ◯ Follows 2-step related directions, e.g. "Pick up your coat and bring it to me." ◯ Enjoys listening to stories
BY 30 MONTHS	◯ Consistently uses 2-3 word phrases ◯ Uses "in" and "on" ◯ At least 50% of speech is understood by caregiver	◯ Follows 2-step unrelated directions, e.g. "Give me the ball and go get your coat." ◯ Understands basic nouns and pronouns ◯ Understands "mine" and "yours"
BY 36 MONTHS	◯ Asks "what" and "where" questions ◯ Uses plurals, e.g. "dogs" ◯ Most speech is understood by caregiver	◯ Understands most simple sentences ◯ Simple understanding of concepts including color, space, time ◯ Understands "why" questions

*Remember to correct your child's age for prematurity.