

Talking is as easy as



Your role as a parent includes ... helping your child learn to use words. Your child's first attempts at communicating are through crying. Later on, your child will make sounds which you can copy. First words develop so your child can ask for things.



A 10 month old child

What to watch for:

- Playing Peek-a-boo
- Waving "bye"
- Saying lots of babbling with different sounds
- Shouts to get attention

What to do:

- Copy your child's sounds
- Keep your speech simple and concrete
- Recite nursery rhymes and sing songs.



A 12 month old child

What to watch for:

- Your child's first word
- Following of simple one-step directions
- Points to objects for you to get or name.

What to do:

- Point out and name things in books
- Teach your child names of things, people and actions
- Show delight with your child's efforts to communicate.

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An 18 month old child

What to watch for:

- Copying your words.
- 10 words your child says.
- Points to different body parts
- Turns pages of a book a few at a time.

What to do:

- Read books to your child frequently.
- Get down at your child's eye level when talking together.
- Copy and add words to your child's single word sentences.



Remember!

- When your child is 18 months, you will be filling out the full Ages and Stages questionnaire for your child. You may discover that your child needs some support with communication. The PHN may suggest a referral to a speech language pathologist. (SLP) It's never too early to help your child with their speech and language development. Time with the SLP is full of fun. Your child is able to play with toys and you can ask questions.
- After 18 months, you may have questions about your child's speech language development. Trust your instincts and call an SLP. Don't wait - early help makes a difference!

Call Northern Health's Speech & Language Clinic at 565-7370 or the Child Development Centre at 563-7168.

Talking is as easy as ...



1 word sentences at
1 year of age.



2 word sentences at
2 years of age.



3 or more word
sentences at
3 years of age.