

KINDERGARTEN READINESS

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONES

This section includes language milestones for American Sign Language and English. These include skills for newborns to six-year-olds. Each age range gives a skill for what your child should understand and express. It also provides information about your child's social and print skills. Your child's print skills include reading and writing.



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Introduction

Developmental milestones are the behaviors or skills seen in infants and children as they grow, learn, and change. There is a typical range in which a child will reach a milestone. Milestones on most checklists are not when an average child has mastered a skill. It is when 80-90% of the children within that age range have mastered the listed skills. Keeping track of milestones can help identify when your child may need some support (e.g., language therapy). The sooner your child receives any needed supports, the better their outcomes will be.

This resource includes milestones for spoken English from Standard American English. It does not address possible grammar differences that are present because of dialects. Dialects are rule-based variations of English. Your child should look/sound like their community. This community will include family, neighborhood friends, and school friends. Standard American English is used for reading and writing in Maine schools.

In this resource, you will see examples of American Sign Language (ASL) provided in print using gloss. ASL does not have a print form. It is also not derived from English. To give examples of a skill, gloss is used to represent the signs word for word. The gloss does not show the meaning. ASL gloss is presented in capital letters and uses symbols to show some grammar.

As your child's first teacher, you have an amazing opportunity to nurture your child's language growth. By taking an active role, parents can help ensure that their child has all the support they need to develop to their full potential.

0-3 Months

Receptive and Expressive Language Skills			
Language your child understands		How your child expresses thoughts/feelings	
Your child will respond to your face and look attentively at your face (by 3 months).		<p>Your child will cry to express hunger and/or anger.</p> <p>Your child will begin to gurgle, laugh, and smile.</p> <p>Your child will bring both hands to their mouth.</p> <p>Your child will express basic feelings and needs.</p>	
ASL	Spoken English	ASL	Spoken English
<p>Your child will look in the direction the signer is pointing.</p> <p>Your child will begin to focus on faces and hands.</p> <p>Your child will begin to look at the visual environment with alertness.</p>	<p>Your child will begin to search for the source of a sound.</p> <p>Your child will respond to talking by quieting or smiling.</p> <p>Your child will react differently to voices, sounds, and emotions.</p> <p>Your child will startle to sudden noises.</p> <p>Your child will quiet to a familiar voice.</p>	<p>Your child will begin to play by holding hands and fingers.</p> <p>Your child will begin to smile to express pleasure.</p> <p>Your child will sometimes look in the direction of movements.</p> <p>Your child will begin to express interest in movement.</p>	<p>Your child will begin to vocalize to express pleasure.</p> <p>Your child will sometimes vocalize in response to sounds.</p>

Social and Print Skills

Your child's social and play skills	Your child's print skills
<p>Your child will begin to smile and respond to you.</p> <p>Your child will look at your face and localize you with their eyes (by 3 months).</p> <p>Your child will smile in response to your signing/talking.</p> <p>Your child will give a true social smile and/or coo in response to a familiar face.</p> <p>Your child will begin to imitate facial movements.</p>	

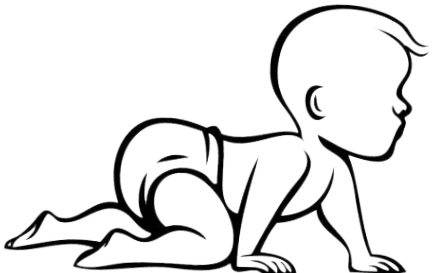
You have begun the exciting child grow, learn, and change! you have to focus on loving and deaf or hard of hearing.



journey of watching your We hope you cherish the time bonding with your baby who is

Language Tip: Early exposure to books is important. Try using tummy time to read simple board books to your child.

3-6 Months

Receptive and Expressive Language Skills			
Language your child understands		How your child expresses thoughts/feelings	
<p>Your child will discriminate between angry and friendly tones and facial expressions; cry in response to an angry voice/ expression.</p> 		<p>Your child will blow raspberries, coo, yell.</p> <p>Your child will use non-verbal means to call attention to physical needs (e.g. toileting, hunger).</p> <p>Your child will use non-verbal means to express personal reactions (e.g. curiosity, surprise, reluctance).</p> <p>Your child will begin to express excitement and displeasure.</p>	
ASL	Spoken English	ASL	Spoken English
<p>Your child will follow the eye gaze and movement of the signer.</p> <p>Your child will attend to signs presented with slow, repeated, large movements.</p>	<p>Your child will localize a sound source with a head or eye turn.</p> <p>Your child will sometimes respond to their own name.</p> <p>Your child will often stop crying in response to voice.</p> <p>Your child will vocalize when you talk to them.</p>	<p>Your child will copy movements involving the arms, hands, head, and face.</p> <p>Your child will hand/finger babble (e.g. open and close hands, wiggle fingers, twist wrists).</p>	<p>Your child will voice different sounds to express varied emotions (e.g. social intent, protest).</p> <p>Your child will babble with a variety of sounds, vowels, and consonants.</p> <p>Your child will try to imitate sounds.</p> <p>Your child will vocalize for needs and wants, in response to others, and when alone.</p>

Social and Print Skills	
Your child's social and play skills	Your child's print skills
<p>Your child will engage in play (e.g. peek-a-boo).</p> <p>Your child will begin to enjoy finger plays/finger games.</p> <p>Your child will imitate facial expressions.</p> <p>Your child will have joint attention (e.g. look at an object with you).</p> <p>Your child will maintain eye contact.</p>	

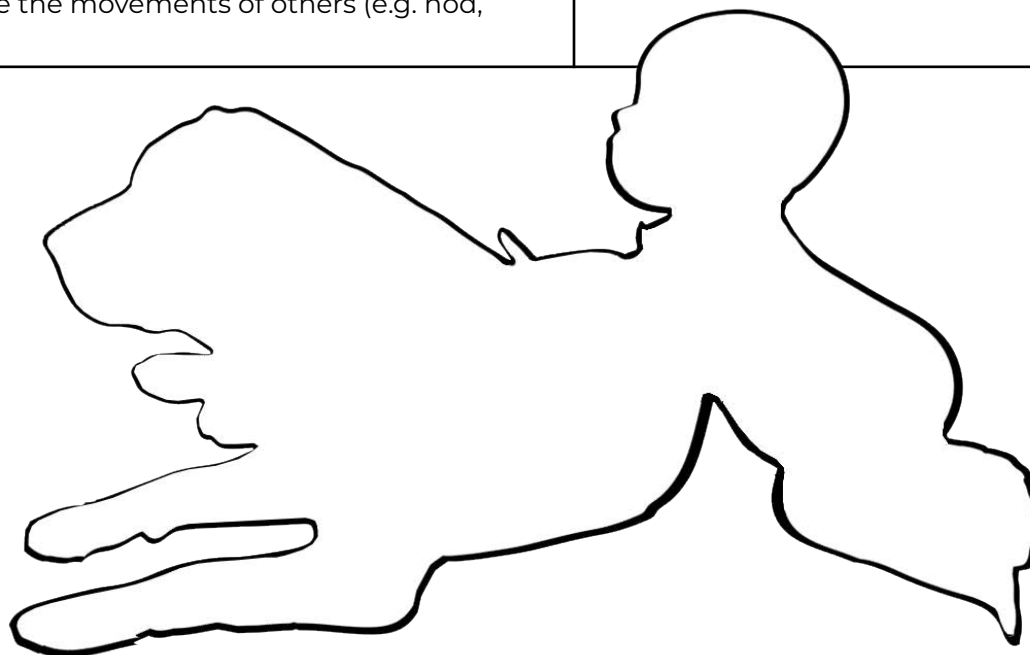
Language Tip: Sign or talk to your child plans, show them objects, and ask them respond to you.

throughout the day. Tell them about your questions. Your child will learn and later

6-9 Months

Receptive and Expressive Language Skills			
Language your child understands		How your child expresses thoughts/feelings	
<p>Your child will look at a toy you show them.</p> <p>Your child will look attentively at a person's face.</p> <p>Your child will begin to show attention to storytelling.</p> <p>Your child will respond with gestures to words (e.g. up, hi, bye-bye).</p>		<p>Your child will show objects by holding, pointing, reaching, or looking at them.</p> <p>Your child will use some gestures (e.g. shakes head for no).</p> <p>Your child will smile, make eye contact, and laugh.</p> <p>Your child will show they are excited or upset.</p> <p>Your child will use language to note the disappearance of objects (e.g. all gone).</p>	
ASL	Spoken English	ASL	Spoken English
<p>Your child will alertly track/follow the eye gaze of a signer.</p> <p>Your child will understand emotions shown on your face (e.g. anger, friendliness).</p>	<p>Your child will sometimes respond to family names, "no," and own name.</p> <p>Your child will enjoy music or singing.</p> <p>Your child will appear to listen to the whole conversation between others.</p>	<p>Your child will hand/finger babble.</p> <p>Your child will laugh when sees fingers approach to tickle.</p>	<p>Your child will appear to "sing".</p> <p>Your child will repeat consonant-vowel syllables (e.g. pa pa).</p>

Social and Print Skills	
Your child's social and play skills	Your child's print skills
<p>Your child will use gesture and/or voice to initiate contact.</p> <p>Your child will understand communication turn-taking.</p> <p>Your child will respond to social games (e.g. finger games, pat-a-cake).</p> <p>Your child will show a desire to interact with people (e.g. call out or wave to get attention).</p> <p>Your child will imitate the movements of others (e.g. nod, wave, and clap).</p>	<p>Your child will attend to/vocalize and pat pictures.</p> <p>Your child will begin to share a book with an adult.</p> <p>Your child will reach for a book.</p> <p>Your child will put books in their mouth.</p>



Language Tip: When you read to your child, help them turn pages. Point to pictures as you read. Use animated facial expressions. Be at eye level with your child.

9-12 Months

Receptive and Expressive Language Skills			
Language your child understands		How your child expresses thoughts/feelings	
<p>Your child will sometimes give toys/objects on request.</p> <p>Your child will sometimes follow simple commands (e.g. put that down).</p> <p>Your child will understand greetings.</p> <p>Your child will understand about 50 signs and/or words.</p>		<p>Your child will use first words (e.g. bye-bye, mama).</p> <p>Your child will label objects without adult cues.</p> <p>Your child will greet others (e.g. hi, bye-bye).</p> <p>Your child will copy face movements (e.g. frown, smile).</p>	
ASL	Spoken English	ASL	Spoken English
<p>Your child will turn their head to attention-getting behaviors (e.g. hand waving, lights flashing).</p> <p>Your child will recognize their own name sign.</p> <p>Your child will use a negative headshake alone or with sign.</p> <p>Your child will follow the eye gaze of the signer.</p>	<p>Your child will respond to vocal intonation.</p> <p>Your child will respond to songs.</p> <p>Your child will understand some object names.</p> <p>Your child will show increased attention to speech.</p>	<p>Your child will use face movement, gestures, and/or signs to protest.</p> <p>Your child will hand/finger babble to self or others.</p> <p>Your child will point to self and objects in the environment.</p> <p>Your child will sign wants (e.g. MILK, WATER, MOM, DAD).</p>	<p>Your child will use jargon of 4+ syllables sentence-like structures without true words.</p> <p>Your child will produce many word-like one-syllable speech sounds (e.g. ma, pa).</p> <p>Your child will imitate inflections and rhythms when vocalizing.</p> <p>Your child will use voice and gestures to express (e.g. protest, call, tell feelings, and respond to others).</p>

Social and Print Skills	
Your child's social and play skills	Your child's print skills
<p>Your child will respond to activities by laughing and repeating the action.</p> <p>Your child will indicate a desire to change activities.</p> <p>Your child will direct others by tugging and pushing.</p> <p>Your child will complete activities with at least two turns.</p> <p>Your child will enjoy storytelling.</p>	<p>Your child will look at books.</p> <p>Your child will show interest in a familiar story or book.</p> <p>Your child will attend to repetition of familiar signs and/or words, songs, and rhymes.</p> <p>Your child will use a crayon to make marks on paper.</p>



Language Tip: Introduce pretend play with your child's favorite doll or toy animal. Include it in your conversations and your play. For example, "Fluffy wants to play too. Can she roll the ball with us?"

12-15 Months

Receptive and Expressive Language Skills			
Language your child understands		How your child expresses thoughts/feelings	
<p>Your child will point to self on request.</p> <p>Your child will follow one-step directions.</p> <p>Your child will identify pictures/objects on request.</p> <p>Your child will begin to answer where and what questions.</p>		<p>Your child will use a single sign/word + a gesture/point.</p> <p>Your child will imitate new signs/words.</p>	
ASL	Spoken English	ASL	Spoken English
<p>Your child will recognize their own name sign.</p> <p>Your child will recognize the name signs of family members.</p>	<p>Your child will understand new words.</p> <p>Your child will search for objects named verbally that are not in the room.</p> <p>Your child will identify an object from a group.</p>	<p>Your child will use name signs to refer to others.</p> <p>Your child will sign wants (e.g. SLEEPY, HUNGRY, THIRSTY).</p> <p>Your child will produce signs that have the simple handshapes of C, A, S, 1, 5.</p> <p>Your child will use gestures to communicate (e.g. COME HERE).</p>	<p>Your child will continue to use jargon with more true words developing.</p> <p>Your child will use up to 7 spoken words all the time.</p> <p>Your child will pause and use intonation when producing jargon.</p> <p>Your child will produce early consonants: b, m, n, t, d, w.</p>

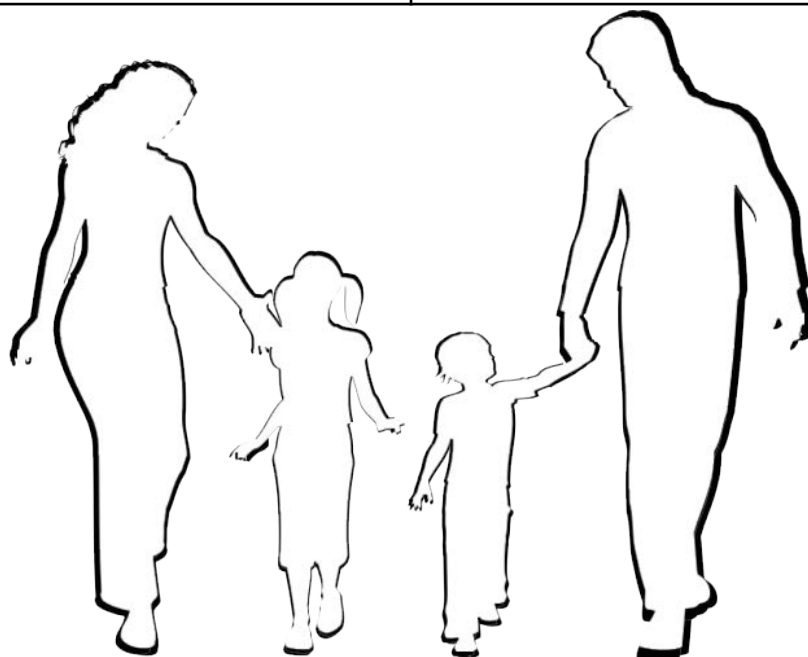
Social and Print Skills	
Your child's social and play skills	Your child's print skills
<p>Your child will imitate actions of others.</p> <p>Your child will take turns as language develops.</p> <p>Your child will involve others by showing things during play.</p> <p>Your child will use pointing, reaching, and single words to request.</p> <p>Your child will begin to use signs/words to request a turn (MY-TURN, "mine").</p>	<p>Your child will scribble with a crayon or pencil.</p>

Language Tip: Build on what your child says. If they say or sign 'ball', you can say, "That's your big, red ball" or sign BALL BIG RED YOUR.

15-18 Months

Receptive and Expressive Language Skills			
Language your child understands		How your child expresses thoughts/feelings	
<p>Your child will follow single step directions.</p> <p>Your child will find familiar objects out of sight.</p> <p>Your child will identify some clothing, toys, and food.</p> <p>Your child will respond to yes/no questions with head nod/shake.</p> <p>Your child will identify objects and actions in pictures.</p>		<p>Your child will respond to simple commands (e.g. "sit down" COME-HERE).</p> <p>Your child will imitate signs/words.</p> <p>Your child will use at least 10 meaningful signs/words.</p> <p>Your child will say/sign functional words (e.g. no, more, mine).</p>	
ASL	Spoken English	ASL	Spoken English
<p>Your child will recognize the name signs of family members.</p> <p>Your child will identify familiar pictures, animals, and objects in the room upon request.</p> <p>Your child will answer WHERE, WHAT questions about items in the room.</p>	<p>Your child will respond to simple requests for clarification.</p> <p>Your child will identify some body parts.</p> <p>Your child will develop category vocabulary (e.g. dishes, toys).</p>	<p>Your child will use gestures to express.</p> <p>Your child will form the first ASL signs using simple handshapes C, A, S, I, 5 clearly.</p> <p>Your child will sign 2-word phrases (e.g. EAT MORE).</p> <p>Your child will repeat what others sign.</p>	<p>Your child will begin replacing gestures with the use of words or word-like sounds.</p> <p>Your child will make the same sound in reference to a picture in a familiar book.</p> <p>Your child will verbally request and protest.</p> <p>Your child will initiate verbal turns.</p>

Social and Print Skills	
Your child's social and play skills	Your child's print skills
<p>Your child will prefer to be with familiar people.</p> <p>Your child will show caution with strangers.</p> <p>Your child will imitate other children.</p> <p>Your child will repeat what was just said/signed.</p> <p>Your child will use language to get attention.</p>	<p>Your child will carry a book.</p> <p>Your child will hold a book with help and attempt to turn pages, usually several at a time.</p> <p>Your child will turn the book right-side-up.</p> <p>Your child will point to a picture in a book when asked "Where's the...?"</p>



Language Tip: When your child points at or gives you something, talk about the object. You can say, "You gave me the book. Thank you! Look at the picture of the baby rolling the ball" or sign BOOK, you-GIVE-me. THANK-YOU. PICTURE, LOOK BABY BALL ROLL.

18-24 Months

Receptive and Expressive Language Skills			
Language your child understands		How your child expresses thoughts/feelings	
<p>Your child will complete two requests with one object.</p> <p>Your child will choose two familiar objects on request.</p> <p>Your child will understand 250-500 signs/words (by 24 months).</p> <p>Your child will understand personal pronouns (e.g. my, mine you, your).</p> <p>Your child will follow 2-step related commands on request (by 24 months).</p>		<p>Your child will attempt to tell stories about experiences.</p> <p>Your child will use I, you, and mine, but still sometimes refer to self by name.</p> <p>Your child will ask where and what questions.</p> <p>Your child will use 2-word phrases with nouns, some verbs, and some describing words (by 24 months).</p> <p>Your child will independently say or sign between 150-300 signs/words (by 24 months).</p>	
ASL	Spoken English	ASL	Spoken English
<p>Your child will imitate the actions or faces of people in a story.</p> <p>Your child will answer questions (e.g. WHO, WHICH, FOR+FOR).</p>	<p>Your child will point to at least 5 body parts.</p> <p>Your child will listen to simple stories.</p>	<p>Your child will use classifiers (CL) to describe things (e.g. CL:F for SPOTS).</p> <p>Your child will use non-manual markers (e.g. raised eyebrows, squints).</p> <p>Your child will use headshake + sign for negation.</p> <p>Your child will use lexicalized signs (e.g. #BUS, #ICE).</p>	<p>Your child will engage in word and sound play with adults.</p> <p>Your child's single-syllable words with early developing sounds will be understood 50% of the time.</p> <p>Your child will sometimes use the word endings -ing and -s.</p> <p>Your child will use the words in, on, and up.</p>

Social and Print Skills		
Your child's social and play skills	Your child's print skills	
	Reading	Writing
<p>Your child will take 1-2 turns in a conversation.</p> <p>Your child will use language to request help.</p> <p>Your child will initiate pretend play.</p> <p>Your child will tell about past events and future actions.</p> <p>Your child will request information (e.g. What is this?).</p>	<p>Your child will tell the difference between words and pictures.</p> <p>Your child will bring a book to an adult to read.</p> <p>Your child will look at a book alone and pretend to read familiar books.</p> <p>Your child will attend to pictures and written text for several minutes.</p> <p>With adult support, your child will respond to simple questions about a familiar story.</p>	<p>Your child will imitate drawing marks or scribbling.</p> <p>Your child will explore drawing, painting, and writing as a way to communicate.</p>

Language Tip: Ask your child to help you. Your child can put a spoon or cup on the table. Your child can bring you their shoe.

24-30 Months

Receptive and Expressive Language Skills			
Language your child understands		How your child expresses thoughts/feelings	
<p>Your child will understand big and little.</p> <p>Your child will understand present and future (e.g. today, tomorrow).</p> <p>Your child will understand quantity (e.g. one, all).</p> <p>Your child will understand connected language.</p>		<p>Your child will use 2-3 word phrases consistently.</p> <p>Your child will have a vocabulary range of over 250 signs/ words.</p> <p>Your child will ask and answer simple wh-questions (e.g. Who? What? Where?).</p> <p>Your child will refer to self with pronouns (e.g. I, me).</p> <p>Your child will use negation (e.g. don't like, don't know, no).</p>	
ASL	Spoken English	ASL	Spoken English
<p>Your child will recognize own name when fingerspelled.</p> <p>Your child will answer questions by combining an object and a verb (e.g. FROG JUMP).</p>	<p>Your child will identify objects by their functions.</p> <p>Your child will repeat a 4-5-word sentence.</p>	<p>Your child will use NOT-YET.</p> <p>Your child will use descriptive classifiers (CL) (CL:O, CL:3).</p> <p>Your child will use handshapes: B, F, O.</p> <p>Your child will use pronouns and possessives (HE, SHE, IT, MY, YOUR, HIS, HERS).</p>	<p>Your child will say sentences that you understand 50-70% of the time.</p> <p>Your child will use words to describe pictures or objects (e.g. big book, three cookies).</p> <p>Your child will use -ing verbs and possessive -s.</p> <p>Your child will use prepositions in and on.</p>

Social and Print Skills		
Your child's social and play skills	Your child's print skills	
	Reading	Writing
<p>Your child will use language more in play (e.g. pretend to chat on the phone/text/videophone).</p> <p>Your child will engage in parallel play (e.g. play beside other children using the same toys but not with the children).</p> <p>Your child will share toys and join games.</p> <p>Your child will complete actions (e.g. give me five).</p> <p>Your child will tell their own age.</p>	<p>Your child will recognize and identify a few letters in context (e.g. the first letter of their name).</p> <p>Your child will recognize familiar books by their cover.</p> <p>Your child will recite parts of well-known stories and songs.</p> <p>Your child will hold books with two hands and turn the pages one by one.</p> <p>Your child will answer simple questions about a story.</p>	



Language Tip: Ask your child to tell you the story that goes with a favorite book. "Tell me about the mouse and the cookie." Reading helps language development.

30-36 Months

Receptive and Expressive Language Skills			
Language your child understands		How your child expresses thoughts/feelings	
<p>Your child will answer what, who, where, and what questions (e.g. pet name, sibling name, name objects, name actions).</p> <p>Your child will carry out 2-3 signed/verbal commands.</p> <p>Your child will understand yesterday.</p> <p>Your child will understand descriptive words.</p> <p>Your child will identify parts of an object.</p>		<p>Your child will use 3-4 word simple sentences and questions.</p> <p>Your child will use question forms of yes/no, who, what, where, and when.</p> <p>Your child will use simple descriptors (e.g. hot, cold, big, little).</p> <p>Your child will use commands with two steps.</p> <p>Your child will use negatives (e.g. don't like, don't know).</p>	
ASL	Spoken English	ASL	Spoken English
<p>Your child will understand familiar simple fingerspelled words.</p>	<p>Your child will understand spatial concepts (e.g. in, on, under).</p> <p>Your child will understand categories.</p> <p>Your child will repeat 3 numbers in a sequence, and/or a sentence of 6-7 words.</p>	<p>Your child will use emotion signs (e.g. SAD, HAPPY).</p> <p>Your child will substitute simple handshapes for more complex handshapes (e.g. CL:5 in place of CL: W for WATER).</p> <p>Your child will use classifier (CL) CL:3 (e.g. CAR DRIVING FORWARD).</p> <p>Your child will use simple, descriptive classifier (CL) CL:O (e.g. for pole).</p>	<p>Your child will use quantity words (e.g. something, nothing, none).</p> <p>Your child will use unstressed words/sounds (e.g. plural -s is).</p> <p>Your child will use spoken language that everyone understands 75% of the time.</p> <p>Your child will use at least 2 adverbs (e.g. fast, slowly, above, next to).</p>

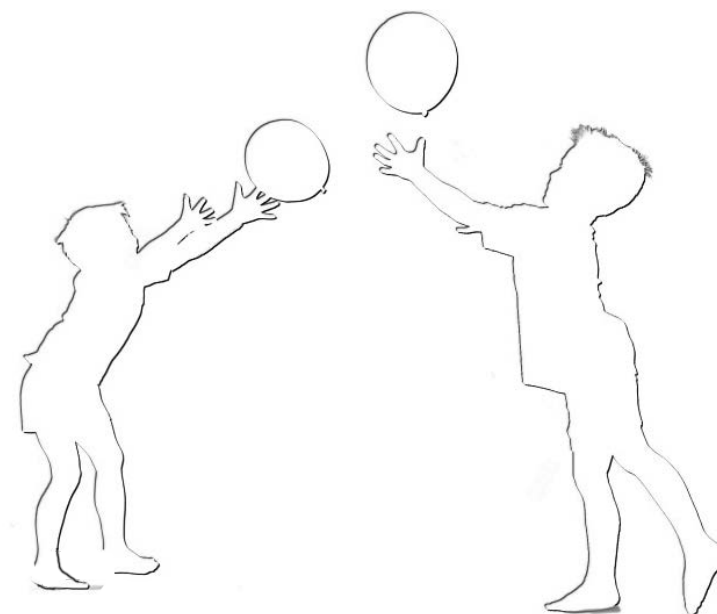
Social and Print Skills		
Your child's social and play skills	Your child's print skills	
	Reading	Writing
Your child will take turns, share, and ask permission of others.	Your child will recognize and identify some letters in context.	Your child will imitate simple lines and shapes with a crayon.
Your child will engage in make-believe activities.	Your child will recognize that symbols have meaning (e.g. the golden arches symbolizes McDonald's).	Your child will tell a story for an adult to write.
Your child will express feelings (e.g. mad, happy, sad, scared).	Your child will recognize familiar books by their cover.	
Your child will begin to give directions (e.g. You do it, Don't touch it).	Your child will recite parts of well-known stories, songs, and nursery rhymes.	
Your child will use questions to get information and request clarification.	Your child will tell a story from pictures.	

Language Tip: Your child still needs quiet time. This is not just for naps. Turn off the TV and tablets. Let your child enjoy quiet play, singing, and chatting with you.

36-42 Months

Receptive and Expressive Language Skills			
Language your child understands		How your child expresses thoughts/feelings	
<p>Your child will name an object when given the function (e.g. What do you see with?).</p> <p>Your child will understand quality, texture, and quantity (e.g. nice, rough, smooth, some).</p> <p>Your child will begin to understand concepts (e.g. full/empty, same/different, day/night).</p> <p>Your child will correctly answer questions about a message.</p> <p>Your child will understand 900 signs/words.</p>		<p>Your child will describe what objects are used for and identify items that do not belong.</p> <p>Your child will ask when, how many, and who questions.</p> <p>Your child will answer <i>how many</i>, <i>who</i>, <i>whose</i>, <i>why</i>, <i>what if</i>, and <i>what is missing</i> questions.</p> <p>Your child will use 5-6 sign/word sentences.</p>	
ASL	Spoken English	ASL	Spoken English
<p>Your child will begin to understand part/whole relationships (e.g. ARM. BODY).</p>	<p>Your child will follow 2-3 step unrelated spoken commands.</p>	<p>Your child will use TWO-OF-US, THREE-OF-US.</p> <p>Your child will begin to use plain verbs to connect subject and object (e.g. HE LIKE ICE-CREAM).</p> <p>Your child will use verb modification (e.g. STROLLING, WALKING QUICKLY).</p> <p>Your child will use topicalization (e.g. POPCORN, ME LIKE).</p>	<p>Your child will talk using many grammatical structures (e.g. plurals, pronouns, prepositions, adjectives).</p> <p>Your child will combine sentences using <i>and</i>, <i>but</i>, <i>because</i>.</p> <p>Your child will use past modals (e.g. could, would, must, might).</p> <p>Your child will use <i>do</i> to ask yes/no questions.</p>

Social and Print Skills		
Your child's social and play skills	Your child's print skills	
	Reading	Writing
<p>Your child will take 4-5 turns during conversation.</p> <p>Your child will relay a message.</p> <p>Your child will show understanding of others' feelings and needs.</p> <p>Your child will make conversational repairs.</p> <p>Your child will enjoy role-playing with others.</p>	<p>Your child will identify some uppercase and lowercase letters.</p> <p>Your child will respond to stories read aloud to a group.</p> <p>Your child will attend to a 10-15 minute story.</p> <p>Your child will answer some questions about a story.</p> <p>With adult support, your child will begin to retell familiar stories.</p>	<p>Your child will draw or copy two lines that cross (+).</p>



Language Tip: Join your child's pretend play activities.

42-48 Months

Receptive and Expressive Language Skills			
Language your child understands		How your child expresses thoughts/feelings	
<p>Your child will understand the difference between past/present/future and singular/plural.</p> <p>Your child will understand opposites (e.g. cold/hot, big/little).</p> <p>Your child will carry out 3 related commands in order.</p> <p>Your child will recognize language absurdities (e.g. there's an elephant on your head).</p> <p>Your child will understand 1,500-2,000 signs/words.</p>		<p>Your child will use how much and how questions.</p> <p>Your child will provide a label when given a child-friendly definition of a familiar word (e.g. What is round and bounces? A ball).</p> <p>Your child will use associations and comparisons.</p> <p>Your child will use some basic qualitative concepts (e.g. wet, dry, hot, cold) and quantitative concepts (e.g. more, less, full).</p> <p>Your child will use 800-1,500 words.</p>	
ASL	Spoken English	ASL	Spoken English
<p>Your child will understand quantity (e.g. FULL, EMPTY, SOME).</p> <p>Your child will answer questions: HOW, WHY, DO-DO.</p>	<p>Your child will answer final word analogies (e.g. cow is to farm as giraffe is to...).</p> <p>Your child will understand -er and -est endings.</p>	<p>Your child will fingerspell own name on request.</p> <p>Your child will show increased use of topicalization (e.g. BALL, BOY THROW).</p> <p>Your child will use complex handshapes: W, D, P, 3, V, H, X, R, M, N, T, 8.</p>	<p>Your child will use negative modals (e.g. shouldn't, won't, can't).</p> <p>Your child will use regular and irregular past tense and third person singular -s verbs.</p> <p>Your child will use articles a and the.</p> <p>Your child will be understood by everyone.</p>

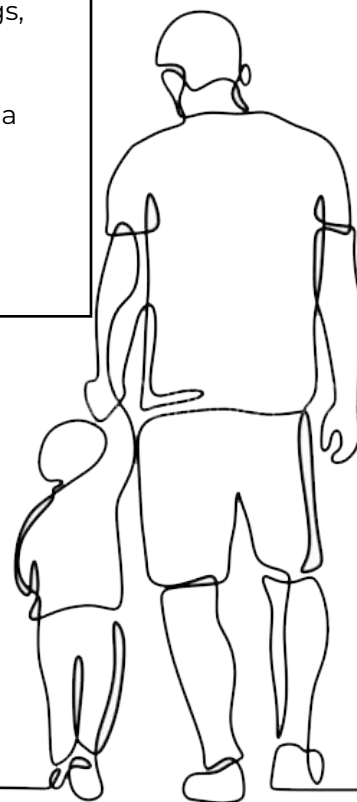
Social and Print Skills		
Your child's social and play skills	Your child's print skills	
	Reading	Writing
<p>Your child will follow topic changes and add comments without changing the subject.</p> <p>Your child will use language to get and give details, tell needs/feelings, and make deals.</p> <p>Your child will create and maintain worlds of make-believe.</p> <p>Your child will ask or respond to questions for clarification.</p> <p>Your child will work in a small group for 10-15 minutes.</p>	<p>Your child will understand that books are made up of written words.</p> <p>Your child will interact with books read aloud to a group.</p> <p>Your child will hold books right-side-up and turn pages left to right.</p> <p>Your child will answer questions about a story.</p> <p>Your child will retell familiar stories.</p>	<p>Your child will draw pictures you can recognize.</p> <p>Your child will draw pictures of people that have at least three parts (e.g. head, eyes, nose, arms, legs).</p> <p>Your child will print a few letters or numbers.</p>

Language Tip: Think about including social skills or social stories for your daily reading.

4-5 Years

Receptive and Expressive Language Skills			
Language your child understands		How your child expresses thoughts/feelings	
<p>Your child will answer questions (e.g. what happened, why, how).</p> <p>Your child will understand more difficult directions about a picture (e.g. point to the big dog that is not brown).</p> <p>Your child will show the ability to think about and comment on language.</p> <p>Your child will understand time concepts and parts (e.g. later/earlier, half/whole).</p> <p>Your child will understand 13,000+ signs/words.</p>		<p>Your child will use 5-8 word sentences.</p> <p>Your child will tell a simple story that includes a beginning, middle, and end.</p> <p>Your child will use 2,500+ signs/words.</p> <p>Your child will ask <i>why</i>, <i>whose</i>, and <i>what does this word mean</i> questions.</p> <p>Your child will use two or more describing words in a sentence (e.g. front/back, heavy/light).</p>	
ASL	Spoken English	ASL	Spoken English
<p>Your child will demonstrate awareness that lexicalized signs are made up of handshapes.</p> <p>Your child will distinguish nouns (double movement) from verbs (single movement) (e.g. CHAIR, SIT).</p> <p>Your child will understand number distribution (e.g. LEAVES, FALL-singular; LEAVES, FALL-plural).</p> <p>Your child will understand handshape categories (e.g. CL:F: BUTTON, FOX, CAT).</p>	<p>Your child will comprehend verb tense (e.g. kicked/kick, ran/run).</p> <p>Your child will follow directions using location words (e.g. on, top, beside, behind, under).</p> <p>Your child will comprehend irreversible passive tense (e.g. The ball was kicked by the boy).</p> <p>Your child will understand words for order (e.g. first, next, last).</p>	<p>Your child will use conditionals (e.g. SUPPOSE TEACHER SHE SICK? CLASS NONE).</p> <p>Your child will tell stories that include setting up absent people and objects in space.</p> <p>Your child will use time indicators (e.g. FINISH, NOT-YET).</p> <p>Your child will use WH bracketing (e.g. WHO GO WHO?).</p>	<p>Your child will use because, if, and so correctly in sentences.</p> <p>Your child will use words to describe placement (e.g. to, from, up, by, with).</p> <p>Your child will use irregular third person verbs (e.g. is, am, are).</p> <p>Your child will ask negative tag questions (e.g. we went, didn't we?).</p>

Social and Print Skills		
Your child's social and play skills	Your child's print skills	
	Reading	Writing
<p>Your child will join conversations. They will change the topic, nicely interrupt, and take at least 4 turns.</p> <p>Your child will discuss make-believe things and places.</p> <p>Your child will understand humor and other points of view.</p> <p>Your child will state their town, their birth month, and their parents' first names.</p> <p>Your child will use words to invite others to play.</p>	<p>Your child will identify most uppercase and some lowercase letters.</p> <p>For children that use a phonics-based approach, they will repeat a familiar rhyme and make rhymes.</p> <p>For children that use a phonics-based approach, they will blend and segment syllables and tell the first sound in words.</p> <p>With adult support, your child will track words in a book from left to right, top to bottom, and page to page.</p> <p>Your child will retell familiar stories with structure and varying verb tense.</p>	<p>Your child will recognize their own name in print.</p> <p>Your child will print their first name or at least four letters.</p> <p>Your child will draw pictures of people that have at least a head with eyes-nose-mouth, body, arms and legs, hands and feet.</p> <p>Your child will draw and print in a planned and organized way.</p>



Language Tip: Ask open-ended questions like "What do you think will happen if...?"

5-6 Years

Receptive and Expressive Language Skills			
Language your child understands		How your child expresses thoughts/feelings	
<p>Your child will understand time sequences (e.g. What happened first, second).</p> <p>Your child will classify items by material (e.g. cloth, glass).</p> <p>Your child will understand <i>who, what, when, where, why</i>, and <i>how</i> questions.</p> <p>Your child will understand verbs by demonstrating the action (e.g. walk, strut, march).</p> <p>Your child will follow group instruction and discussions.</p>		<p>Your child will relate action and describing words to their opposites.</p> <p>Your child will give and restate simple 1, 2, and 3-step directions.</p> <p>Your child will describe familiar people, places, things, and events with details.</p> <p>Your child will answer questions to get help, give information, or better explain something.</p> <p>Your child will add drawings or other visuals to descriptions to show ideas and feelings.</p>	
ASL	Spoken English	ASL	Spoken English
<p>Your child will know basic classifier handshape and movement.</p> <p>Your child will understand signing space and non-manual markers.</p> <p>Your child will identify new meanings for similar signs (e.g. SAME/LIKE).</p> <p>Your child will recognize common types of stories (e.g. storytelling, poems).</p>	<p>Your child will follow directions that include <i>ask</i> or <i>tell</i>.</p> <p>Your child will understand passive tense (e.g. That song was sung by my Mom).</p> <p>Your child will understand irregular plurals (e.g. mice).</p> <p>Your child will begin to understand non-literal meanings (e.g. make up your mind).</p>	<p>Your child will use basic classifiers for descriptions.</p> <p>Your child will recite ASL poems, rhymes, and folklore with expression.</p> <p>Your child will change sign movement or handshapes to make new words.</p> <p>Your child will use role-shifting and/or non-manual markers (e.g. WANT/DON'T WANT).</p>	<p>Your child will use it or that to represent an entire idea (e.g. That's not my fault).</p> <p>Your child will use adverbs (e.g. We will go for lunch. I want the yellow shirt instead).</p> <p>Your child will use clauses (e.g. as soon as, until, before, after).</p> <p>Your child will use simple grammar correctly (e.g. pronouns, prepositions).</p>

Social and Print Skills		
Your child's social and play skills	Your child's print skills	
	Reading	Writing
<p>Your child will follow agreed-upon rules for discussions (e.g. attend to others, taking turns).</p> <p>Your child will engage in different kinds of conversations.</p> <p>Your child will maintain a conversation and respond to comments.</p> <p>Your child will ask questions to understand a topic.</p> <p>Your child will tell a well-structured, personal story.</p>	<p>Your child will identify and name all uppercase and lowercase letters of the alphabet.</p> <p>For children that use a phonics-based approach, they will produce rhyming words, blend sounds, and segment words into syllables.</p> <p>Your child will understand that print goes from left to right and top to bottom.</p> <p>Your child will engage in a group reading with purpose and understanding.</p>	<p>Your child will write most uppercase and lowercase letters with correct spacing.</p> <p>Your child will use words and pictures to tell an event or simple story in the right order.</p> <p>Your child will print first and last name with letters facing in the correct direction.</p> <p>Your child will print all 26 letters of the alphabet by copying them or from memory.</p>

Language Tip: Cook with your child. Cooking gives you time together. You can work on following directions, math skills, and vocabulary.

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