

NORMAL SPEECH DEVELOPMENT

It is quite common for children under 5 years of age to have speech that is unclear. However, at certain ages there are speech sounds which your child should have already developed. The table below provides you with a guide to the ages when these sounds should have been mastered.



In terms of intelligibility:

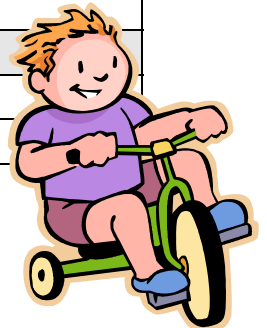
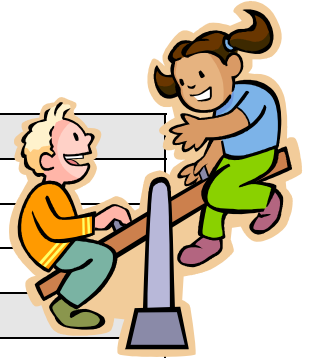
- By 18 months a child's speech is normally 25% intelligible
- By 24 months a child's speech is normally 50-75 % intelligible
- By 36 months a child's speech is normally 75-100% intelligible

Phonological Process	Examples	Gone By Approximately:
Context Sensitive Voicing and Word Final De-voicing	pig = pick pig = big car = gar	3;0 years
Final Consonant Deletion	boat = bow up = uh soon = soo	3;3 years
Fronting	car = tar go = doe ship = sip	3;6 years
Consonant Harmony	mine = mime kittycat = tittytat	3;9 years
Weak Syllable Deletion	elephant = efant potato = tato television = tevision banana = nana	4;0 years
Cluster Reduction	spoon = poon train = chain clean = keen	4;0 years
Gliding of liquids	run = one leg = weg leg = yeg	5;0 years
Stopping: /f/	fish = tish	3;0 years
/s/	soap = dope	3;0 years
/v/	Very = berry	3;6 years
/z/	zoo = doo	3;6 years
"sh"	shop = dop	4;6 years
"j"	jump = dump	4;6 years
"ch"	chair = tear	4;6 years
Voiceless "th"	thing = ting	5;0 years
Voiced "th"	that = dat	5;0 years

Table from: <http://www.speech-language-therapy.com/acquisition.html>
(Caroline Bowen 2006)

BASIC CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT

2 - 2 ½ years	
Pronouns	I, my, mine, me, your
Position	In, out, of, on, off, under
2 ½ - 3 years	
Pronouns	She, he, her, him, hers, his
Size	Big, tall
Quality	Soft, heavy
Quantity	all
3 - 3 ½ years	
Pronouns	You, they
Quality	Hard, same
Position	Top, apart, toward
3 ½ - 4 years	
Pronouns	Us, them, their
Quality	light
Size	little
Quantity	Full, more, less
Position	In front of, back of, around, next to
4 ½ - 5 years	
Position	Beside, bottom, backward, forward
Quantity	each
5 - 5 ½ years	
Pronouns	our
Position	Behind, ahead of, first, last



(Information adapted from Communication Skill Builders)