

Stages of Vocal Development

Throughout these stages, your baby is getting ready to talk. Your baby will practice making a variety of sounds using their voice and by moving their tongue and lips.

Age	Stage	Example
2-4 months	Cooing	OOOs & AHHs and GOOs & GAHs
4-6 months	Laughter	Your baby starts to giggle
“	Vocal Play	Tongue sounds like clicks, squeals and raspberries
“	Early Babbling	Your baby starts combining consonants (p, b, m, t, d, k, g) with vowels (i.e. ‘ba, pa’)
6-8 months	Reduplicative Babbling	Your baby uses the same series of consonant-vowel or vowel-consonant syllables (i.e. “bababa, dadada”)
8-10 months	Nonreduplicative Babbling	Consonants and vowels may differ from one syllable to the next (i.e. “ba-ga-ba-ka”)
10-12 months	Jargon	Your baby uses conversation intonation which starts to sound like adult speech without real words
“	Word Approximations	Sounds that are consistently used to label specific items (i.e. “da” for “down”, “ba” for “ball”)

Baby’s use gestures like looking, pointing, reaching, waving, clapping, nodding and showing items as other ways to communicate before you hear their first words.

Early intervention is key! If you have any concerns about your baby’s speech and language skills, KidsAbility is here to help! For general information or to make a referral call **519-886-8886 ext 1214**.

There is no cost for this service. Doctor referrals are not needed.