



Carle Foundation Hospital

Expanding Children's Hearing Opportunities (ECHO)

What are the indications that my child may have hearing loss?

Hearing loss is a hidden problem because most children cannot tell us that they do not hear. A hearing problem of any degree can significantly affect a child's communication abilities and educational potential. Look over the checklist below. If you answer "no" to any of the questions in your child's age range, contact the Carle Ear and Hearing Center at 383-3130 to arrange for a hearing test.

Birth to 4 months

- ◆ Does baby startle to loud sounds?
- ◆ Does baby quiet to a familiar voice?
- ◆ Does baby smile or coo when you talk to him/her?

4 to 9 months

- ◆ Does baby turn his/her head to search for a sound or voice?
- ◆ Does baby show understanding of common words such as 'no' & 'bye'? (7-9 mos)
- ◆ Does baby babble (sounds like da, ba, ma)?

9 to 15 months

- ◆ Does baby respond to his/her own name?
- ◆ Does baby react to music?
- ◆ Does baby jabber and act like s/he is talking even though you may not understand him/her?
- ◆ Does baby know the names of favorite toys and can point to them when asked?

15 to 20 months

- ◆ Does child follow simple directions?
- ◆ Does child point to body parts when asked?
- ◆ Does child say at least 25 words?

20 months and above

- ◆ Does child listen to the TV at a normal volume level?
- ◆ Does child understand speech without asking for frequent repetition?
- ◆ Does child follow directions?
- ◆ Does child combine 2 to 3 words together (24 months)?



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The following are risk factors for progressive or late onset hearing loss:

- ◆ Family history of hereditary childhood hearing loss.
- ◆ In utero infections such as; cytomegalovirus, rubella, syphilis, herpes or toxoplasmosis.
- ◆ Neurodegenerative disorders such as Neurofibromatosis type II

What are the indications that my child may have a speech and language delay?

If you answer "no" to any of the questions in your child's age range, contact the Carle Ear and Hearing Center at 383-3130 to arrange to have your child's hearing, speech and language tested.

Does your baby:

- ◆ Respond to your voice even when he can't see you?
- ◆ Coo and babble throughout the day, using a wide variety of sounds?

Does your toddler (1-2 yrs):

- ◆ Use words and phrases to let you know what he wants?
- ◆ Use speech that you understand most of the time but that others may not?
- ◆ Follow simple directions
- ◆ Look at the familiar person or object you name when you say "Where's _____?"

Does your preschooler (3-4 yrs):

- ◆ Talk in complete simple sentences?
- ◆ Use speech that others understand most of the time?
- ◆ Follow 2-3 step directions
- ◆ Ask and answer a wide variety of questions?

Does your kindergartner:

- ◆ Talk in complete sentences that are 5-10 words in length?
- ◆ Have very understandable speech with only a few (2-3) errors remaining?
- ◆ Follow classroom directions, stories, routines, etc.? (Teacher has no concerns about how he's doing in school)

Does your school-age child:

- ◆ Complete assignments correctly?
- ◆ Receive good grades in regular education classes?
- ◆ Enjoy friendships with children his age?