



Age Group	Development Matters 2020 Statements
Birth to Three	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Turn towards familiar sounds; startled by loud noises. Locate the source of familiar voices.- Gaze at faces, copying expressions and movements.- Watch faces while talking.- Copy adults' actions; take turns in conversation through babbling.- Enjoy singing, music, and sound-making toys.- Recognize and are calmed by familiar voices.- Listen and respond to simple instructions.- Make various sounds to get attention.- Use gestures like waving or pointing to communicate.- Babble using sounds like 'baba' or 'mamama'.- Understand single words in context ('cup', 'milk').- Respond to frequently used words ('all gone', 'no', 'bye-bye').- Focus on self-chosen activities but may find it hard to be directed by adults.- Develop pretend play (e.g., 'putting the baby to sleep').
Three and Four-Year-Olds	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Enjoy longer stories and remember events.- Pay attention to more than one thing.- Use a wider vocabulary.- Understand two-part instructions (e.g., 'Get your coat and wait by the door').- Begin to answer 'why' questions.- Sing a large repertoire of songs and recite rhymes.- Tell familiar stories and use longer sentences of four to six words.- Debate using words and actions.- Use talk to organise play (e.g., 'Let's go on a bus...').- Start conversations and continue them for several turns.- Improve but may still struggle with irregular tenses (e.g., 'runned' for 'ran').- Pronounce sounds (e.g., r, j, th, ch, sh) but may struggle with multisyllabic words
Children in Reception	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Understand how to listen carefully and its importance.- Learn and use new vocabulary throughout the day.- Ask questions for clarification.- Form well-structured sentences to articulate thoughts.- Connect ideas using a range of connectives.- Describe events in detail.- Use talk to solve problems and organise activities.- Engage in story times, rhymes, songs, and non-fiction books.- Retell familiar stories using exact phrases or their own words.- Listen to and discuss rhymes, poems, and songs.- Talk about non-fiction texts to deepen understanding and vocabulary.- Develop familiarity with social phrases.
Early Learning Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Listen attentively and respond to what is heard with relevant comments or actions.- Make comments and ask questions for understanding.- Engage in back-and-forth conversations.- Participate in discussions using recently introduced vocabulary.- Explain ideas using vocabulary from stories and rhymes.- Express feelings and experiences in full sentences.