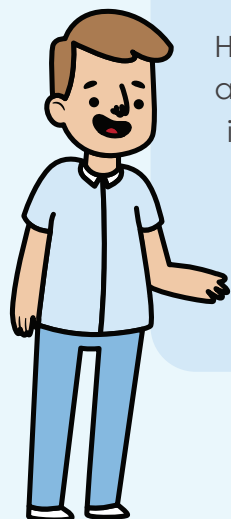




World Health
Organization

Suspect hearing loss, if your child did not reach the milestone. **See a healthworker or doctor at the earliest.**

Hearing loss can be identified at any age. Remember, early identification of hearing loss followed by prompt rehabilitation is essential to minimize communication difficulties in a child.



**LOOK OUT FOR THE HEARING AND
LANGUAGE MILESTONES
AND ACT EARLY!**



World Health
Organization



**HEARING AND LANGUAGE
MILESTONES IN CHILDREN**

© World Health Organization 2023. Some rights reserved. This work is available under the CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO licence.

WHO/UCN/NCD/SDR 23.2

https://www.who.int/health-topics/hearing-loss#tab=tab_1



The **development of hearing and language in children can be assessed through certain common developmental landmarks.** These landmarks are an indicator of healthy hearing. Their absence can be caused by hearing loss.

Look out for the milestone and act early!

A child with normal hearing will:

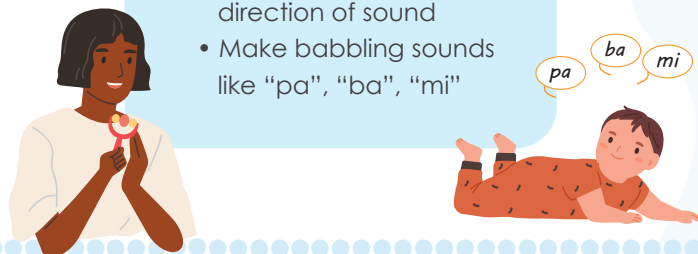
By the age of three months:

- Respond to the mother's voice
- Make cooing sounds



By the age of six months:

- Move eyes in the direction of sound
- Make babbling sounds like "pa", "ba", "mi"



By the age of one year:

- Turn when someone calls by name and understand common words like 'water'
- Say single words like "mama", "dada"



By the age of two years:

- Respond to simple questions like "Who's that?" and follows simple instructions like "Hold the toy"
- Put two words together such as "no bed" or "more apple"



By the age of three years:

- Follow two-part instructions such as "Get the spoon and put in on the table"
- Put three words together to talk about things



By the age of four years:

- Understand words for family members, colours, shapes
- Answer simple "who", "what", and "where" questions



By the age of five years:

- Hear most of what is said at home and in school
- Say names, letters and numbers

