

WHEN TO REFER: Guidelines for a Speech Pathology Referral

Age	Language	Speech	Social/Emotional	Feeding
0 - 18 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Child is a quiet baby and does not babble much. 🚩 Child is unresponsive to familiar people/words. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Hearing difficulties. 🚩 Child is prone to colds or ear infections. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Lacks eye contact. 🚩 Does not show social enjoyment. 🚩 Lacks interest in playing and social interactions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Difficulties with bottle feeding and or breast feeding. 🚩 Child has swallowing difficulties. 🚩 Failure to thrive. 🚩 Difficulty transitioning to solids.
2 - 3 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Child has less than 50 words in their vocabulary. 🚩 Child is not putting 2 words together. 🚩 Child has difficulty following simple instructions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Child has no clear words, and is difficult to understand when speaking. 🚩 Child's speech is dysfluent, or 'bumpy'. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Lacks eye contact. 🚩 Plays with toys inappropriately. Such as banging/throwing doll, instead of cuddling doll. 🚩 Lacks interest in pretend play, or playing with others. 🚩 Child has difficulties showing different feelings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Child is a fussy eater, and reluctant to try new foods, or textures.
3 - 5 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Child is not using simple sentences. 🚩 Child has difficulty answering simple questions. 🚩 Difficulty expressing needs/wants/telling a story. 🚩 Difficulty following 2 step instructions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Most of what is said cannot be understood by other person. 🚩 Child's speech is dysfluent, or 'bumpy'. 🚩 Child has a 'harsh' or 'hoarse' sounding voice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🚩 Lacks eye contact. 🚩 Does not play cooperatively with others. 🚩 Difficulties in noticing and understanding feelings of other people. 	