

## Milestone Guide

### Infants and Toddlers

6 months	12 months	18 months	24 months
Responds to sounds by making sounds	Responds to simple spoken requests	Says several single words	Points to things or pictures when they are named
Strings vowels together when babbling (“ah,” “eh,” “oh”) and takes turns while making sounds	Uses simple gestures like shaking head “no” or waving “bye-bye”	Says and shakes head “no”	Knows names of familiar people and body parts
Responds to own name	Makes sounds with changes in tone (sounds more like speech)	Points to show someone what he wants	Says sentences with two to four words
Makes sounds to show joy and displeasure	Says “mama” and “dada” and exclamations like “uh-oh!”		Follows simple instructions
Begins to say consonant sounds (jabbering with “m,” “b”)	Tries to say words you say		Repeats words overheard in conversation
			Points to things in a book

### Preschool

Age 3	Age 4	Age 5
Follows instructions with 2 or 3 steps	Tells stories	Speaks very clearly
Can name most familiar things	Sings a song or says a poem from memory, such as the “Itsy Bitsy Spider” or the “Wheels on the Bus”	Tells a simple story using full sentences
Understands words like “in,” “on” and “under”	Knows some basic rules of grammar, such as correctly using “he” and “she”	Uses future tense; for example, “Grandma will be here.”
Says first name, age, and sex	Can say first and last name	Says name and address
Names a friend		
Talks well enough for strangers to understand most of the time		
Says words like, “I,” “me,” “we,” and “you,” and some plurals (cars, dogs, cats)		
Carries on a conversation using two to three sentences		

### Kindergarten

Listening	Speaking	Reading	Writing
<p>Follow one to two simple directions in a sequence</p> <p>Listen to and understand age-appropriate stories read aloud</p> <p>Follow a simple conversation</p>	<p>Be understood by most people</p> <p>Answer simple yes or no questions</p> <p>Answer open-ended questions (What did you learn at school today?)</p> <p>Retell a story or talk about an event</p> <p>Participate appropriately in conversations</p> <p>Show interest in and start conversations</p>	<p>Know how book works (read left to right and top to bottom)</p> <p>Understand that spoken words are made up of sounds</p> <p>Identify words that rhyme</p> <p>Compare and match words based on their sounds</p> <p>Understand that letters represent speech sounds and match sounds to letters</p> <p>Identify upper and lower case letters</p> <p>Recognize some words by sight</p> <p>“Read” a few pictures books from memory</p> <p>Imitate reading by talking about pictures in a book</p>	<p>Print own first and last name</p> <p>Draw a picture that tells a story and label and write about the picture</p> <p>Write upper and lower case letters (may not be clearly written)</p>

### 1st Grade

Listening	Speaking	Reading	Writing
Remember information	Be easily understood	Create rhyming words	Express ideas through writing
Respond to instructions	Answer more complex yes or no questions	Identify all sounds in short words	Print clearly
Follow two- to three-step directions in a sequence	Tell and retell stories and events in a logical order	Blend separate sounds to form words	Spell frequently used words correctly
	Express ideas with a variety of complete sentences	Match spoken words with print	Begin each sentence with capital letters and use ending punctuation
	Use most parts of speech (grammar) correctly	Know how a book works (e.g., read from left to right and top to bottom in English)	Write a variety of stories, journal entries, or letters and notes
	Ask and respond to "w" questions (who, what, where, when, why)	Identify letters, words, and sentences	
	Stay on topic and take turns in conversation	Sound out words when reading	
	Give directions	Have a sight vocabulary of 100 common words	
	Start conversations	Read grade-level material fluently	
		Understand what is read	

## 2nd Grade

Listening	Speaking	Reading	Writing
<p>Follow three to four oral directions in a sequence</p> <p>Understand direction words (e.g., location, space, and time words)</p> <p>Correctly answer questions about a grade-level story</p>	<p>Be easily understood</p> <p>Answer more complex "yes or no" questions</p> <p>Ask and answer "wh" questions (e.g., who, what, where, when, why)</p> <p>Use increasingly complex sentence structures</p> <p>Clarify and explain words and ideas</p> <p>Give directions with three to four steps</p> <p>Use oral language to inform, to persuade and to entertain</p> <p>Stay on topic, take turns, and use appropriate eye contact during conversation</p> <p>Open and close conversation appropriately</p>	<p>Have fully mastered phonics or sound awareness</p> <p>Associate speech sounds, syllables, words, and phrases with their written forms</p> <p>Recognize many words by sight</p> <p>Use meaning clues when reading (e.g., pictures, titles and headings, information in the story)</p> <p>Reread and self-correct when necessary</p> <p>Locate information to answer questions</p> <p>Explain key elements of a story (e.g., main idea, main characters, plot)</p> <p>Use own experience to predict and justify what will happen in grade-level stories</p> <p>Read, paraphrase or retell a story in a sequence</p> <p>Read grade-level stories, poetry or dramatic text silently and aloud with fluency</p> <p>Read spontaneously</p> <p>Identify and use spelling patterns in words when reading</p>	<p>Write legibly</p> <p>Use a variety of sentence types in writing essays, poetry, or short stories (fiction and nonfiction)</p> <p>Use basic punctuation and capitalization appropriately</p> <p>Organize writing to include beginning, middle, and end</p> <p>Spell frequently used words correctly</p> <p>Progress from inventive spelling (e.g., spelling by sound) to more accurate spelling</p>

### 3rd Grade

Listening	Speaking	Reading	Writing
<p>Listen attentively in group situations</p> <p>Understand grade-level material</p>	<p>Speak clearly with an appropriate voice</p> <p>Ask and respond to questions</p> <p>Participate in conversations and group discussions</p> <p>Use subject-related vocabulary</p> <p>Stay on topic, use appropriate eye contact, and take turns in conversation</p> <p>Summarize a story accurately</p> <p>Explain what has been learned</p>	<p>Demonstrate full mastery of basic phonics</p> <p>Use word analysis skills when reading</p> <p>Use clues from language content and structure to help understand what is read</p> <p>Predict and justify what will happen next in stories and compare and contrast stories</p> <p>Ask and answer questions regarding reading material</p> <p>Use acquired information to learn about new topics</p> <p>Read grade-level books fluently (fiction and nonfiction)</p> <p>Reread and correct errors when necessary</p>	<p>Plan, organize, revise and edit</p> <p>Include details in writing</p> <p>Write stories, letters, simple explanations and brief reports</p> <p>Spell simple words correctly, correct most spelling independently, and use a dictionary to correct spelling</p>

### 4th Grade

Listening	Speaking	Reading	Writing
<p>Listen to and understand information presented by others</p> <p>Form opinions based on evidence</p> <p>Listen for specific purposes</p>	<p>Use words appropriately in conversation</p> <p>Use language effectively for a variety of purposes</p> <p>Understand some figurative language</p> <p>Participate in group discussions</p> <p>Give accurate directions to others</p> <p>Summarize and restate ideas</p> <p>Organize information for clarity</p> <p>Use subject area information and vocabulary (e.g., social studies) for learning</p> <p>Make effective oral presentations</p>	<p>Read for specific purposes</p> <p>Read grade-level books fluently</p> <p>Use previously learned information to understand new material</p> <p>Follow written directions</p> <p>Take brief notes</p> <p>Link information learned to different subjects</p> <p>Learn meanings of new words through knowledge of word origins, synonyms, and multiple meanings</p> <p>Use reference materials (e.g., dictionary)</p> <p>Explain the author's purpose and writing style</p> <p>Read and understand a variety of types of literature, including fiction, nonfiction, historical fiction, and poetry</p> <p>Compare and contrast in content areas</p> <p>Make inferences from texts</p> <p>Paraphrase content, including the main idea and details</p>	<p>Write effective stories and explanations, including several paragraphs about the same topic</p> <p>Develop a plan for writing, including a beginning, middle, and end</p> <p>Organize writing to convey a central idea</p> <p>Edit final copies for grammar, punctuation and spelling</p>

### 5th Grade

Listening	Speaking	Reading	Writing
<p>Listen and draw conclusions in subject area learning activities</p>	<p>Make planned oral presentations appropriate to the audience</p> <p>Maintain eye contact and use gestures, facial expressions and appropriate voice during group presentations</p> <p>Participate in class discussions across subject areas</p> <p>Summarize main points</p> <p>Report about information gathered in group activities</p>	<p>Read grade-level books fluently</p> <p>Learn meanings of unfamiliar words through knowledge of root words, prefixes, and suffixes</p> <p>Prioritize information according to the purpose of reading</p> <p>Read a variety of literary forms</p> <p>Describe development of character and plot</p> <p>Describe characteristics of poetry</p> <p>Analyze author's language and style</p> <p>Use reference materials to support opinions</p>	<p>Write for a variety of purposes</p> <p>Use vocabulary effectively</p> <p>Vary sentence structure</p> <p>Revise writing for clarity</p> <p>Edit final copies</p>