

The Infant and Toddler Hearing Checklist

Parents are often the first people to sense that their child has a hearing problem. It is important to recognize the signs of hearing loss in infants and toddlers as early as possible as the most critical period for speech and language development is from birth to four years of age.

All infants and toddlers can be given a thorough hearing evaluation, and in fact should have a hearing test once a year.

Age appropriate behaviours for infants and toddlers are listed below. If you suspect a problem, do not delay in getting your child's hearing tested!

Does your baby...

Birth to 4 months	1. Awaken or stir at loud sounds?
	2. Awaken or stir at loud sounds?
	3. Startle at loud noises?
	4. Calm at the sound of a familiar voice?
	5. Respond to your voice (smiles or coos)?

4 to 9 months	1. Turn eyes toward source of familiar sounds?
	2. Smile when spoken to?
	3. Notice rattles and other sound-making toys?
	4. Cry differently for different needs?
	5. Make babbling sounds?
	6. Seem to understand simple word/hand motions such as "bye-bye" with a wave?

9 to 15 months	1. Babble a lot of different sounds?
	2. Respond to his/her name?
	3. Respond to changes in your tone of voice?
	4. Say “ma-ma” or “da-da”?
	5. Understand simple requests?
	6. Repeat some sounds you make?
	7. Use his/her voice to attract attention?

15 to 24 months	1. Point to familiar objects when they are named?
	2. Listen to stories, songs and rhymes?
	3. Follow simple commands?
	4. Use several different words?
	5. Point to body parts when asked?
	6. Name common objects?
	7. Put two or more words together?

You should see most of the behaviours listed above at approximately the age ranges shown.

If you do not, contact Tami Mehl Audiology to schedule a hearing evaluation for your child.