Typical Speech Development

(Ages 2-9 months)

2-3 months old:

- Cooing & Gooing
- Vowel-like sounds ("e," "I," "u," "a," "oo")
- Consonant-like sounds ("h," "k," "g")
- "ba ba" or "da da" sounds when crying/cooing

3-4 months old:

- Long vowel-like sounds "e" and "a"
- Consonant-like sounds "p," "b," and "m"
- Babbling such as "ba ba ba," "da da da," and "ma ma ma" often seen when caregiver is not interacting.

4-6 months old:

- Blows "raspberries"
- Hear sounds like "k," "g," "p," and "b"
- Long "oo" and "o" vowels sounds
- Long "u" and "o," short "u," "o," and "ough" sounds
- Babbles four or more syllables such as "ba ba ba ba"
- Starts putting different sounds together "bee," "daa," "moh," & "paa"

6-9 months old:

- Random combination of syllables during babbling such as "ba da" or "ma ma ma," "pa pa pa," "ba ba ba," "da da da"
- Hear sounds like "p," "b," "w," "t," "d," "m," "n," "k," "g," and "y"
- Starts to imitate caregiver's sounds such as "ba ba ba" or a cough
- Vowel and consonant sounds become more distinguishable over time

Reference:
Bahr, D. (2010). *Nobody Ever Told me (or my Mother) That!* Arlington, TX: Sensory World.

Typical Speech Development

(Ages 9-18 months)

9-12 months old:

- Starts to hear first meaningful words ("dada," "mama," "bye bye," "no," "go," "me")
- Three or so words heard at 10-11 months
- Descriptive words start to appear around 11-12 months
- Babbling with "b" and "d" sounds (10-12 months)
- Sentences in childs' own language ("ba ba" or "ba da")
- Child seen imitating others' speech sounds & combinations or animal noises ("mah," "bah," dah," "doh,").
- May try to imitate simple words (toy names or objects)

12-15 months:

- Might hear same sounds for different words ("ba" for ball & bottle)
- 5-7 meaningful words
- Three to four syllable jargon
- Randomly imitates new words
- Consonant speech sounds ("p," "b," m," "w," "t," "d," "n," "k," "g," "h," "y")

15-18 months:

- Imitate/repeat unfamiliar words with new sounds heard in conversation
- Continues learning new words (around 10 words per months)
- 15-20 words by 18 months; When asked can name 5-7 items
- Identify objects using words
- Consonant speech sounds ("p," "b," "m," "w," "f," "v," "t," "d," "l," "n," "g," "k," "h,")

Reference:
Bahr, D. (2010). *Nobody Ever Told me (or my Mother) That!* Arlington, TX: Sensory World.

Typical Speech Development

(Ages 18-24 months)

18-21 months:

- Enters 2 word stage; imitating 2-3 word sentences but talks mostly in single words
- Converses with adults
- 10-20 words appropriately & distinctly
- Consonant-vowel-consonant words such as "bat" (18 months)
- Early developed vowel sounds; trouble often with short "I" and "e"

21-24 months:

- Meaningless copying of adults' words decreases
- 20 plus words mastered
- 50-270 words (mostly nouns)
- Attempts to talk about experiences by using word & jargon combo
- When distracted by toys or activities more likely to copy others' speech
- Understood by unfamiliar people half the time
- Mostly uses speech to express ones self
- Uses vowels, consonant and diphthong (double vowel sound)
- By 24 months, the following sounds are heard in the beginning of words: lip sounds "b," "p," "m," and "w;" tongue-tip sounds "t," "d," and "n;" back-of-the-mouth sounds "k," "g," and "h;" teeth-to-lip sounds "f" and "v;" and the noisy sound "s"
- "By 24 months, the following sounds are heard at the end of words: lip sounds "p," tongue-tip sounds "t" and "n;" back-of-the-mouth sounds "k" and "r," and the noisy sounds "s"
- "May leave final sounds out of words (eg, "ca" instead of "cat"), may simplify words (eg, cown instead of clown), may say "t" or "d" in place of "k" or "g" (eg, "tat" instead of "cat"), may say "w" for "r" ("wed" instead of "red")"

Reference:
Bahr, D. (2010). *Nobody Ever Told me (or my Mother) That!* Arlington, TX: Sensory World.

Typical Speech Development

(Ages 2-4 years)

2-3 years:

- Understandable and clear words in speech
- Talks in 2 or 3 word simple sentences
- At least says sounds "p," "b," "m," "h," "n," "w," "t," "d," "k," "g," and "ng"
- Variance of voice loudness
- Might drop unstressed syllables ("nana" for "banana") or final sound in word ("ba" for "ball")
- Might use "w" in place of "r" ("wed" for "red")
- Might simplify words ("side" for "slide")

3-4 years:

- More precise speech
- Simple sentences speech
- 900-1000 word vocabulary
- Uses around 12,000 words a day
- Mostly accurate vowel sounds
- Accurately say sounds "p," "b," "m," "h," "n," "w," "k," "g," and "d"
- Half of children also correctly say "t," "ng," "f," "y," "r," "I," and "s" sounds
- Begin establishing consonant blends ("bl," "dr," "br")

Reference:
Bahr, D. (2010). *Nobody Ever Told me (or my Mother) That!* Arlington, TX: Sensory World.