



Speech and Language Skills of the 3 Year Old

Language Skills (Expressive and Receptive):

1. Vocabulary of 900 to 1500 words
2. Recites first name, tells his/her sex and holds up fingers to signify age.
3. Speaks in short sentences to describe their activity. (ex. I can make my train go fast)
4. Can identify concepts to 3 (puts 3 blocks in your hand), but can rote count to 10.
5. Can recall 3 number sequences (ex: "say 253")
6. Can point or identify the function of objects
7. Matches colors and names at least 3 to 4 colors
8. Uses pronouns to refer to self and others (sometimes confuses "he" and "she").
9. Understands and uses simple prepositions: "on", "under", "in", "in back", and "in front."
10. Uses plurals (ex: shoes, socks)
11. Knows a few rhymes or songs
12. Frequently asks questions that they already know the answer.

Speech (Articulation, Voice and Fluency):

1. Speech is intelligible about 75% of the time and is understood by adults.
2. Sounds in words are sometimes missing or interchanged with other sounds (ex: "teletone", "lellow").
3. Difficulty with pronouncing L, R, Ch, J, Th, and some S blends. Some tongue thrusting is still observed, but doesn't affect overall speech intelligibility.
4. Some developmental stuttering is often noticed at the beginning of words or sentences.

Social Speech (Pragmatics):

1. Interacts with peers in run and play games, may boss or complain of others.
2. Engages in conversation with adults, but frequently changes topics.
3. Makes greetings by waving and uses "please" and "thank you" when prompted.