Speech and Language Problems in Children

URL of this page: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/speechandlanguageproblemsinchildren.html

Children vary in their development of speech and language skills. Health professionals have milestones for what's normal. These milestones help determine if a child is on track or if he or she may need extra help. For example, a child usually has one or two words like "Hi," "dog," "Dada," or "Mama" by her first birthday.

Sometimes a delay may be caused by hearing loss, while other times it may be due to a speech or language disorder. Language disorders can mean that the child has trouble understanding what others say or difficulty sharing her thoughts. Children who have trouble producing speech sounds correctly or who hesitate or stutter when talking may have a speech disorder.

If your child's speech or language appears to be delayed, talk to your child's doctor.

_**NIH: National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders**_

**Start Here**

- Speech and Language Impairments [http://nichcy.org/disability/specific/speechlanguage] (National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities)

**Overviews**

- Delayed Speech or Language Development [http://kidshealth.org/parent/emotions/behavior/not_talk.html] (Nemours Foundation)
  - Also available in Spanish [http://kidshealth.org/parent/en_espanol/emociones/not_talk_esp.html]
- Late Blooming or Language Problem? [http://www.asha.org/public/speech/disorders/LateBlooming.htm] (American Speech-Language-Hearing Association)
  - Also available in Spanish [http://familydoctor.org/familydoctor/es/diseases-conditions/speech-and-language-delay.printerview.all.html]

**Latest News**


**Treatment**

Specific Conditions

- Tongue-Tie (Ankyloglossia) [http://www.entnet.org/HealthInformation/Ankyloglossia.cfm] American Academy of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery

Related Issues


Clinical Trials


Journal Articles


Directories

- Directory of Organizations (Deafness and Communication Disorders) [http://www.nidcd.nih.gov/directory/] NIH (National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders)

Organizations

- American Speech-Language-Hearing Association [http://www.asha.org/]
- National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders [http://www.nidcd.nih.gov/] NIH

Statistics


Children

- Going to a Speech Therapist [http://kidshealth.org/kid/feel_better/people/speech_therapist.html] (Nemours Foundation)

Patient Handouts


You may also be interested in these related encyclopedia pages:


You may also be interested in these related MedlinePlus topics:

- Speech and Communication Disorders [http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/speechandcommunicationdisorders.html]

The primary NIH organization for research on Speech and Language Problems in Children is the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders [http://www.nidcd.nih.gov/]

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