



We Improve Communication for Life

# Speech-Language Development Ages 2-3

## 2-3 Years

- Use 3-4 word sentences.
- Ask and answer simple questions (who, what, where, why.)
- Understand basic concepts and opposites (hot/cold, big/little, on/off, night/day.)
- Follow 2-step unrelated directions (for example: put your car in the toy box and bring your bear to me.)
- Understand 800-1500 words and use 250-800 words/Speech is understood 80% of the time.
- Tell a simple story and talk about past events.
- Use all vowels correctly.
- Use the following sounds consistently: m, b, p, w, h, n.
- Use the following sounds inconsistently: k, g, t, d, f, y.

## What can I do?

- Read books together. Comment on the objects and actions and discuss different concepts when possible (up/down, high/low, same/different, hot/cold, big/little.) Take turns reading the story—you read first (with comments) and then have your child “read it” to you.
- Help your child talk about past events by directing the flow of conversation.
- Encourage your child to listen to directions.
- Use pointing and gestures to help him/her understand.
- Model good speech for your child. Be a good listener and expect errors. Help your child learn emerging speech sounds by exaggerating difficult sounds rather than correcting them in your own speech (for example: stress beginning of “goat, kite.”)

*For more information, please call 614.263.5151  
or visit [www.columbusspeech.org](http://www.columbusspeech.org)*



510 E. North Broadway • Columbus • OH • 43214  
614.263.5151 V • 614.429.1382 VP • 614.263.5365 FAX  
[www.columbusspeech.org](http://www.columbusspeech.org)

