

HEARING DEVELOPMENT

Speech is the birthright of every child... Without speech there is so much less to hear, Without hearing there is so much less to say.

NORMAL HEARING IS CRUCIAL TO A CHILD'S

- Speech and Language Development
- Social Development
- Intellectual Progress
- Educational Progress.

Even a mild hearing loss can negatively impact your child's development on any one of the above areas.



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HOW DO I MONITOR NORMAL HEARING IN MY CHILD?

Confirm your child's speech and language development by monitoring it according to the table.

1 mth	Cries
2 mths	Starts to make different noises
3 mths	Laughs and is quietened by the sound of a familiar voice
4 mths	Turns towards a familiar voice
5 mths	Initiates and takes turns in "conversations"
6 mths	Reacts to the word "no". Recognises own name
7 mths	Recognises family member's names e.g. <i>Mommy, Daddy</i>
8 mths	Vocalises at least 4 different syllables
9 mths	Copies non-speech sounds e.g. "brr"
10 mths	Looks at familiar objects when named
11 mths	Uses the words "Mommy" and "Daddy" with meaning while interject a lot of babbling
1 year	Copies the names of familiar objects e.g. "Car"
13 mths	Copies 3 animal sounds
14 mths	Uses more real words during babbling
15 mths	Uses 3 additional words other than "Mommy" and "Daddy"
16 mths	Looks for familiar objects that are not visible
17 mths	Names 5-7 objects on request, e.g. "ball", "car", "bottle"
18 mths	Uses vocabulary of 20 words regularly
19 mths	Imitates two word phrases
20 mths	Understands "come here" and enjoys using words like "Where?"
21 mths	Points to 4 body parts. Uses "mine"
22 mths	Uses 2-word phrases regularly e.g. "baby sleeping"
23 mths	Regularly uses new words and carries out short instructions
2 years	Uses at least 50 different words in 2 to 3-word phrases e.g. "Grandpa kick ball"

CAN HEARING LOSS DEVELOP AFTER BIRTH?

Definitely! Permanent and temporary hearing loss can develop any time after birth. It can amongst other things be ascribed to the following:

- Upper respiratory tract infections coupled with middle ear infections
- Family history of hearing problems
- Viral infections e.g. mumps and meningitis
- Trauma e.g. A hard blow to the head or ear
- Otototoxic medication
- High fever

WHY ARE MIDDLE EAR INFECTIONS SO IMPORTANT TO TREAT?

Middle ear infections are the most common childhood disease. It causes hearing loss and subsequent development delays; consequently having far reaching effects on a child's development if left untreated.

WHAT ARE THE SIGNS OF POSSIBLE MIDDLE EAR INFECTIONS??

- Delayed speech and language development
- Poor appetite and/or sleep patterns
- Associated cold/fever symptoms
- Fever and/or ear pain
- Excessive crying/irritability
- Touching and pulling on ears
- Decreased listening attention
- Coupled with teething
- Balance problems

WHAT DO I DO IF MY CHILD IS NOT PROGRESSING APPROPRIATELY?

- Remember that all children's' hearing needs to be tested **again** when they are 12 months old.
- Feel free to visit an Audiologist at **any other age** should you have uncertainties regarding your child's hearing.
- Take your child to an Ear-, nose- and Throat specialist should you suspect symptoms of a middle ear infection.
- Contact a Speech-Language Therapist.

The earlier a hearing loss is identified, the smaller the effect is that it has on your child. It is therefore important to visit an Audiologist as soon as possible should you suspect a possible hearing loss.

GEHOORONTWIKKELING

**Spraak is die geboortereg van elke kind....
Sonder spraak, is daar veel minder om te hoor...
Sonder gehoor, is daar veel minder om te sê.**

GEHOOR IS NOODSAAKLIK VIR 'N KIND SE:

- Spraak- en Taalontwikkeling
- Sosiale Ontwikkeling
- Intellektuele Vordering
- Skolastiese Vordering

Enige graad van gehoorverlies kan 'n nadelige en permanente invloed op die bogenoemde areas van jou kind se ontwikkeling hê.



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HOE MONITOR JY NORMALE GEHOOR?

Bevestig jou kind se spraak- en taalontwikkeling deur dit met die volgende tabel te monitor.	
1 mnd	Huil
2 mnd	Begin verskillende geluide maak
3 mnd	Lag en word stil vir 'n bekende stem
4 mnd	Draai na 'n bekende stem toe
5 mnd	Inisieër en neem beurt in "gesprekke"
6 mnd	Reageer op die woord "nee". Herken eie naam
7 mnd	Herken familieledede se name bv. "Mamma", "Pappa"
8 mnd	Vokaliseer ten minste 4 verskillende lettergrepe
9 mnd	Boots nie-spraakgeluide na bv. "brrr"
10 mnd	Kyk na bekende voorwerpe wat benoem word
11 mnd	Sê "Mamma" en "Pappa" met betekenis en gebruik baie babbeltaal tussendeur
1 jaar	Boots die name van bekende voorwerpe na bv. "kar"
13 mnd	Boots 3 diere-geluide na
14 mnd	Gebruik betekenisvolle woorde saam met babbeltaal
15 mnd	Gebruik nog 3 woorde buiten "Mamma" en "Pappa"
16 mnd	Soek na bekende voorwerpe wat nie sigbaar is nie
17 mnd	Benoem 5-7 voorwerpe op versoek, bv. "bal", "kar", "bottel"
18 mnd	Beskik oor spontane woordeskat van 20 woorde
19 mnd	Boots 2-woord frases na
20 mnd	Verstaan "kom hier" en gebruik graag woorde soos "Waar?"
21 mnd	Wys 4 liggaamsdele uit. Gebruik die woord "myne"
22 mnd	Gebruik 2-woord frases gereeld bv. "baba slaap"
23 mnd	Gebruik gereeld nuwe woorde en voer kort opdragte uit
2 jaar	Gebruik ten minste 50 verskillende woorde in 2 tot 3-woord frases bv. "Boetie bal skop"

KAN GEHOORVERLIES DAN NA GEBOORTE ONTSTAAN?
Beslis! Permanente en tydelike gehoorverlies kan enige tyd na geboorte ontstaan. Dit kan onder andere aan die volgende toegeskryf word:

- Boonste lugweginfeksies en gepaardgaande middelloorinfeksies
- Familiegesiedenis van gehoorprobleme
- Virusinfeksies bv. kindersiektes soos pampoentijes en meningitis
- Trauma bv. 'n harde stamp teen die kop of oor
- Ototoksiese medikasies
- Hoë koors

WAAROM IS DIT BELANGRIK OM MIDDELOORINFESIES TE BEHANDEL?

Middelloorinfeksies is die mees algemene kindersiekte. Dit kan gehoorverlies en ontwikkelingsagterstande veroorsaak en het dus 'n nadelige invloed op 'n kind se ontwikkeling, as dit nie behandel word nie.

WAT IS DIE TEKENS VAN 'N MOONTLIKE MIDDELOORINFESIE?

- Stadige of swak spraak- en taalontwikkeling
- Swak eetlus en/of slaappatrone
- Geassosieerde verkoue/griep simptome
- Koors en/of oorpyn
- Huil/geirriteerdheid
- Raak aan/trek van ore
- Beperkte luisteraandag
- Gepaardgaande tandesny episodes
- Balansprobleme

WAT DOEN EK AS MY KIND NIE NA WENSE VORDER NIE?

- Onthou dat alle kinders se gehoor weer op 12 maande getoets moet word.
- Besoek gerus op enige ander ouderdom 'n Oudioloog, indien jy sekerheid rakende jou kind se gehoor wil verkry.
- Neem jou kind na 'n Oor-, Keel- en Neusspesialis, indien jy middelloorinfeksies vermoed.
- Kontak 'n Spraak-Taalterapeut.

Hoe vroeër 'n gehoorverlies geïdentifiseer word, hoe kleiner is die invloed wat dit op jou kind het. Daarom is dit belangrik om, indien jy 'n gehoorverlies vermoed, so gou moontlik 'n Oudioloog te besoek.

