

Speech Sound Development

The following chart shows the ages at which children acquire different speech sounds. Keep in mind that these are only guidelines. Many consonant sounds may be used consistently and accurately, though they may not be mastered in all contexts or word positions.

Approximate Age	Sound	Sample Words
3 Years	m n h w p b	<u>m</u> onkey, ha <u>mm</u> er, broo <u>m</u> <u>n</u> ail, pe <u>nn</u> y, lio <u>n</u> <u>h</u> ouse, a <u>h</u> ead <u>w</u> indow, spider <u>w</u> eb <u>p</u> ig, a <u>pp</u> le, cu <u>p</u> <u>b</u> oat, ba <u>bb</u> y, bi <u>b</u>
4 Years	t d k g	<u>t</u> able, a <u>tt</u> ack, ki <u>t</u> <u>d</u> og, la <u>dd</u> er, be <u>d</u> <u>k</u> at, chi <u>ck</u> en, bo <u>o</u> k goat, wagon, pi <u>g</u>
5 Years	ng y f v	<u>ng</u> er, si <u>ng</u> <u>y</u> ellow, o <u>n</u> ion, tha <u>nk</u> yo <u>u</u> <u>f</u> ork, tele <u>ph</u> one, ki <u>fn</u> e <u>v</u> acuum, televi <u>s</u> ion, st <u>ov</u> e
6 Years	l sh ch j	<u>l</u> amp, ba <u>ll</u> oon, ba <u>ll</u> <u>sh</u> oe, di <u>sh</u> es, fi <u>sh</u> <u>ch</u> air, ma <u>ch</u> es, wa <u>ch</u> <u>j</u> ump, a <u>pp</u> le ju <u>ic</u> e, fu <u>dg</u> e
7 Years	s z voiced th voiceless th	<u>s</u> un, pe <u>nc</u> il, bu <u>s</u> <u>z</u> ebra, bu <u>zz</u> ing, do <u>gs</u> <u>th</u> is, fea <u>th</u> ers, ba <u>th</u> e <u>th</u> umb, ba <u>th</u> tub, te <u>eth</u>
8 Years	r consonant blends	<u>r</u> abbit, ca <u>rr</u> ot, ca <u>r</u> <u>dr</u> um, <u>cl</u> ock, <u>st</u> ar

