19 to 24 Months: What to Expect

Speech and language milestones for this age, plus the signs that are worth a call to a speech-language pathologist.



AGE

19-24 months

What to expect

- Uses and understands at least 50 different words - food, toys, animals, body parts
- Speech may not always be clear - "du" for shoe, or "dah" for dog, is expected here
- Puts two or more words together - "more water", "go outside"
- Follows two-step directions - "get the spoon and put it on the table"
- Uses words like me, mine and you
- Uses words to ask for help
- Uses possessives, like "Daddy's sock"

Worth a Conversation

- ! Fewer than 50 words by 24 months
- ! No two-word combinations by 24 months
- ! Does not imitate sounds, words or actions
- ! Loses words or skills they previously had

You never need a referral to ask a speech-language pathologist for an evaluation, and you never need to wait and see. If you are wondering whether to call, that is reason enough.