



**PROFESSIONAL  
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## **POSSIBLE RED FLAGS IN A CHILD'S SPEECH & LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT (36 – 60 Months)**

### THREE YEARS

- Difficulty following 2-step directions
- Difficulty naming common objects
- Difficulty asking and/or answering questions
- Difficulty identifying objects in a common category
- Not using at least 3-word sentences
- Speech cannot be understood more than 75% of the time (even though some sound errors may still be present at this age)
- Frustration or anger when speech is not understood

### FOUR YEARS

- Difficulty following 3-step directions
- Limited vocabulary use (average of 1,500 words at this age)
- Difficulty with concepts such as now/later, big/little, open/close
- Not using at least 4-word sentences
- No language heard during play activities
- Speech cannot be understood 100% of the time (even though sound errors may still be present at this age)
- Difficulty listening to a short story and answering simple questions about it

### FIVE YEARS

- Difficulty explaining object functions
- Difficulty defining common objects
- Difficulty retelling stories
- Sentences are not grammatically correct
- Not using at least 6-word sentences
- Difficulty engaging in conversation with peers and adults
- Speech cannot be understood 100% of the time (even though sound errors may still be present at this age)