# Speech Therapy Screening Tool (“Red Flags”)

**Children-All Ages**

Limited interest in toys and/or plays with them in an unusual way Has lost words he/she used to say

Stuttering

Ongoing hoarse voice

Problems with chewing or swallowing

# Speech Therapy Screening Tool (“Red Flags”) – Age Specific

By 6 Months

* Turns eyes or head toward a sound
* Watches your face when you speak
* Smiles and laughs in response to your smiles and laughs
* Has different cries for different needs
* Makes sounds and/or moves body in response to you

By 9 Months

* Responds to his/her name
* Babbles e.g., bababa, dadada
* Plays social games w/ you e.g., peek-a-boo

By 12 Months

* Follows simple 1-step directions e.g., “sit down”
* Gives familiar items on verbal request
* Points to things he/she wants
* Uses gestures e.g. waving “bye-bye”
* Brings toys to show you
* Looks across the room to something you point to
* Gets your attention using sounds, and gestures while looking at your eyes

By 18 Months

* Identifies several body parts when asked
* Understands concepts of “in/out”, “off/on”
* Points to pictures using one finger
* Says about 20 words consistently
* Uses at least four consonant sounds e.g., p, b, m, n, d, g, w, h
* Pretends to feed a doll/teddy or pretends a bowl is a hat

By 2 Years

* Follows 2-step directions e.g., “go find your teddy and show it to grandma”
* Uses at least 100 words including action words e.g., fall, eat, go
* Combines at least two words e.g., daddy sleep
* Enjoys being with other children
* Puts two pretend play actions together e.g., stirring food and feeding a doll

By 3 Years

* Understands who, what, where and why questions
* Can create long sentences combining at least five words
* Uses some adult grammar e.g., cookies, mommy’s coat, I jumped
* Can have a short conversation
* Speech is understood at least 75% of time
* Pretends with friends using many actions

e.g. having a tea party

By 4 Years

* Follows three-part directions e.g. “get some paper, draw a picture and give it to mommy”
* Uses sentences with adult-type grammar e.g., “he’s going to the park now”
* Tells a story
* Speech is understood by strangers most of the time
* Can act out different roles with their friends e.g., going to a restaurant