

What Do I Do If I Am Concerned About My Child's Speech/Language Development?



If they are late, don't wait to seek a professional evaluation by a licensed and certified speech/language pathologist!

Dower and Associates, Inc. has been evaluating and treating communication delays in children and adolescents in Prince William and Loudoun Counties since 1993. Director, Nikia Dower, MS, CCC-SLP/L, BCBA®, is a licensed speech/language pathologist (1986) and certified speech/language pathologist (1988) and a Board Certified Behavior Analyst® since 2005.

Dower and Associates, Inc. staff members provide speech/language evaluations and therapy, applied behavior analysis consultations and instruction, academic and remedial tutoring, as well as educational consultations and advocacy.

Contact us for more information on the services we provide!



www.dowerandassociates.com

*Speech & Language Evaluations, Therapy & Consultations * Applied Behavior Analysis Consulting & Instruction * Academic & Remedial Tutoring *
IEP Development & Advocacy

Dower and Associates, Inc.
9845 Business Way
Manassas, Virginia 20110
www.dowerandassociates.com
Address Correction Requested

Speech-Language Milestones & Signs of Referral for Early Intervention

0–9 months



*Specialties in Language
Based Learning*

*Disabilities, Autism,
Apraxia & Other*

Developmental

Disabilities

Speech & Language
Evaluations, Therapy &
Consultations

Applied Behavior Analysis
Consulting & Instruction

Academic & Remedial Tutoring

9845 Business Way
Manassas, VA 20110
(703) 330-0554 Prince William
(540) 687-5412 Loudoun
(703) 618-6180 Cellular
(703) 257-4841 Facsimile

www.dowerandassociates.com

information@dowerandassociates.com

Established 1993

Typical Developmental Milestones

DURING THE FIRST 3 MONTHS

- Looks at caregivers. Maintains brief eye contact during feeding
- Becomes quiet in response to sound (especially speech of a familiar speaker)
- Smiles or coos in response to another person's smile or voice (sounds produced near the back of the mouth)
- Cries differently when tired, hungry or in pain

3 TO 6 MONTHS

- Fixes gaze on face
- Responds to name by looking for voice
- Regularly localizes sound source/speaker
- Cooing, gurgling, chuckling, laughing, squeals (sound produced forward in the mouth vowel like sounds)
- Vocalizes feelings through intonation
- Uses mouth to explore
- Inspects objects visually
- Discriminates between threatening and friendly voices
- Imitates facial expressions
- Engages in activity with joint attention with adult

6 TO 9 MONTHS

- Imitates vocalizing to another with vowels emerging
- Enjoys reciprocal social games structured by adult (peek-a-boo, pat-a-cake)
- Has different vocalizations for different states
- Recognizes familiar people
- Imitates familiar sounds and actions, attends to singing
- Reduplicative babbling ("bababa," "mamama"), vocal play with intonational patterns, lots of sounds that take on the sound of words,
- Attends to music (e.g. babbling a true consonant with a vowel bababa)
- Cries when parent leaves room (9 months)
- Responds consistently to soft speech and environmental sounds
- Reaches to request object
- Searches for hidden object, attends to pictures

Description of Our Services

- Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Consulting and Instruction (in home and/or school) *with Emphasis in Verbal Behavior*
- Speech & Language Therapy, Evaluations and Consultations
- Academic and Remedial Tutoring
- SRA/Direct Instruction Programs
- Social/Pragmatic Skills Groups
- Limited Educational Assessments
- ABLLS™-R and VB-MAPP Assessments
- Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA) for Behavior Replacement; Behavior Reduction Programming & Treatment
- Specialized Respite Care
- Parent and Staff Training
- Speech/Language Pathology Certificate of Clinical Competence and BCBA®/BCABA® Supervision
- Skill Development - Communication, Daily Living, Feeding Issues, Toileting, Vocational, Social Skills
- ABA Program Evaluation and Development
- Workshops (parents, schools & community)
- "Camp Communicate with Confidence"
- IEP Development & Advocacy
- Shadowing in School and/or Camp
- Contractual Services to Public and Private Schools
- DDW (Virginia) & TRICARE-ECHO Service Provider

Call or email us for more information and fee schedule.

703-618-6180

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Signs For Referral For Early Intervention

DURING THE FIRST 3 MONTHS

- Lack of responsiveness
- Lack of awareness of sound
- Lack of awareness of environment
- Cry is no different if tired, hungry or in pain
- Problems sucking/swallowing/feeding

AT 6 MONTHS

- Cannot focus, easily over-stimulated
- Lack of awareness of sound, no localizing toward the source of a sound/speaker
- Lack of awareness of people and objects in the environment
- Rarely smiles or engages gaze with caregivers
- Problems feeding

AT 9 MONTHS

- Does not appear to understand or enjoy the social rewards of interaction
- Lack of connection with adult (lack of eye contact, reciprocal eye gaze, vocal turn-taking, reciprocal social games, imitation)
- No babbling, or babbling with few or no consonants
- Demonstrates no purposeful interactions with familiar objects (continues non purposeful banging or mouthing of objects)