

CHATTER MATTERS

MY FIRST MONTHS

0-3
months

ABOUT ME:

My name is:
.....
Date and time I was born:
.....
I weighed:
.....



This is me! →

WHAT I AM DOING

I recognise your voice – I learnt it before I was born. I prefer to listen to your voice than any other.
I love looking at faces. I can see best from 6-10 inches (around 20 cm), so hold me close.
I can copy you if you stick your tongue out at me – pull funny faces to get my interest.



WHAT CAN WE DO TOGETHER?

Playing games with me helps develop the connections in my brain.
Singing to me helps calm me down.
Talk to me gently and in very short sentences. It's good to chat when we are doing things together – feeding, getting dressed and having my nappy changed.

ABOUT ME:



3-6
months

Here is a 'paint print' ↑
of my hand or foot

WHAT I AM DOING

I am taking much more interest in the world around me.
I especially like to look for faces that I know.
I can hold things now – my clothes or your hair.
My voice is changing.
Different cries mean different things – whether I am hungry or scared or just fed up.

WHAT CAN WE DO TOGETHER?

I love playing with you. Gently tickle me or lift me up and say 'up!'. I'm also starting to like games like 'peek-a-boo'.
Playing games with me helps me to learn. **I feel close to you when we play together.**
I love games that we can **play over and over again.** We can take turns, you do something then I do something – like you clapping and me laughing.



ABOUT ME:

I was when I first sat up.
My favourite thing at the moment is:
.....



6-9
months

WHAT I AM DOING

I am interested in sounds. I might look for where the sound is coming from, like the phone or the doorbell.
I have started to play with the sounds that I can make with my mouth.
I'm learning who is who – so I might be a bit worried about people I don't know.



WHAT CAN WE DO TOGETHER?

Not all children need dummies. If I do use one, try to keep it to naptimes so I can practise talking.
Use the same words over and over again in the same situation. Then I can learn what words mean. I am beginning to learn that 'milk' is the name for what I drink and 'bye-bye' means that someone is going.
I love hearing you talk to me. We can play together – you copy some of the sounds that I make – then later I will want to copy the sounds that you make.

MY FIRST BIRTHDAY

Sponsored by
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I can
helps children
communicate

ABOUT ME:

Stick my
photograph here

My favourite game or song is:

.....

← This is what I look like now!



9-12
months

WHAT CAN WE DO TOGETHER?

Copying is one of the first steps in learning to talk. Play copying games with me – copying faces that we pull at each other, clapping hands or making sounds.

Talk to me in short sentences.

Talk about what I see around me or noises that I hear. When you say the same thing lots of times, I will get to know the words.

When we chat, leave time for me to say something back to you.

Say the word back to me and I will learn how to say it like you do.

Quiet times during the day help me listen.

I like listening to you singing, making noises and talking to me. Turn off other sounds so I can listen easily.

WHAT I AM DOING

I'll stop and look if you call my name.

I can understand words you use a lot, like 'all gone' or 'bye-bye'. I understand better if you make hand movements when you speak to me. One hand movement for each sentence is good.

I'm starting to wave and point. I can use some speech sounds to talk to you. Over the next few months, I'll say my first words, like 'mum-mum' and 'hi-ya'.

12-18
months

ABOUT ME:

I started walking when I was

My first word was

I have teeth

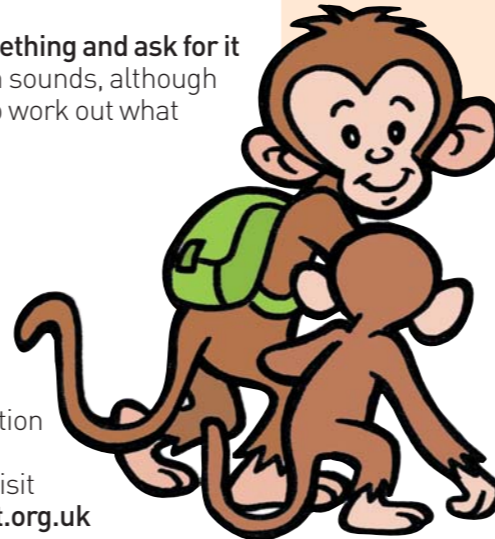


WHAT I AM DOING

I can understand one word at a time, if I have heard them lots. Favourites are 'milk', 'cup' and 'teddy'.

I understand more words than I can say. By 18 months, I can say around 10 words that my family can understand.

I can point to something and ask for it by making speech sounds, although it might be hard to work out what I am saying.



WHAT CAN WE DO TOGETHER?

I love it when you play music or sing to me – I can join in action rhymes with you. Try 'wind the bobbin up' or 'row, row, row your boat'.

When you tell me the names of things, I can learn from you.

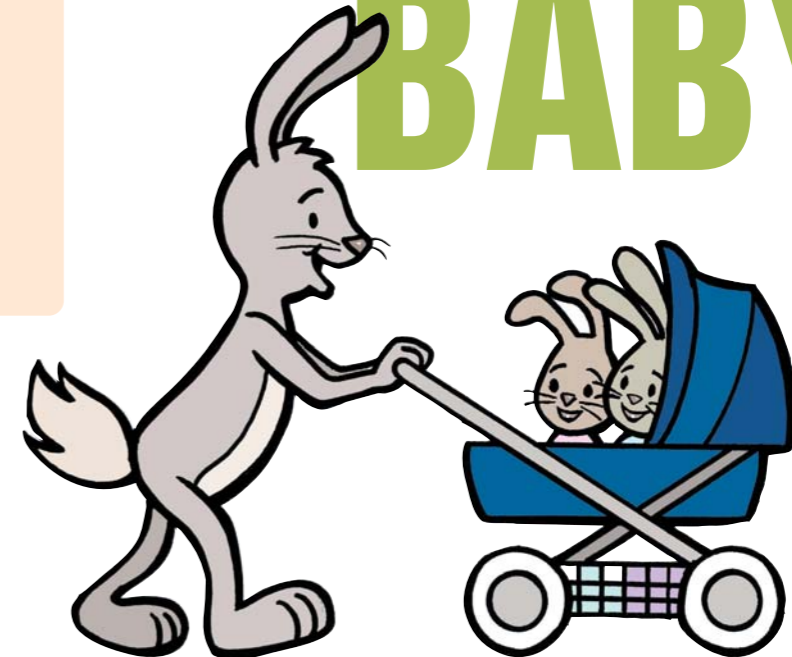
I love being with adults I know well. Playing and talking are free.

I don't need a dummy when I'm awake now. If I still have it, hide it from me or just throw it away.



For more information about your child's communication, visit www.talkingpoint.org.uk

CHATTER CHART BABY



Making life easier for you and better for your child.