

A child with normal hearing will:

Around two months of age:

- Startle to a sound
- Quiet to a familiar voice
- Make vowel sounds like “ohh” and “ahh”

Around four months of age:

- Looks for sounds with eyes
- Start babbling
- Use a variety of voice sounds such as squeals, whimpers, and chuckles

Around six months of age:

- Turn head towards sound
- Begins to imitate speech sounds
- Babbles (“ba-ba,” “ma-ma,” “da-da”)

Around nine months of age:

- Imitate speech sounds
- Understands “no-no” or “bye-bye”
- Turns head towards soft sounds

Around twelve months of age:

- Correctly use “ma-ma” or “da-da”
- Hand over toy when asked
- Respond to singing or music
- Locate sound at all levels



Risk Factors

There are many risk factors for hearing loss. Some risk factors include prematurity, if your baby was in the intensive care nursery, has a family history of hearing loss, certain illnesses and ear infections.

Hearing can be lost or damaged at any age; therefore, repeat testing may be necessary.

If you have concerns about your baby’s hearing, talk to your doctor as soon as possible.

If your baby does not have a doctor, call your local health department or the Powerline for a referral at: **800-822-2539**.

Website:
health.state.ga.us/programs/unhs



Georgia Department of Public Health,
Maternal & Child Health Section
2 Peachtree St., NW | Atlanta, GA 30303



Have You Heard?

The Georgia Universal
Newborn Hearing
Screening Program

Be sure to have your newborn baby’s hearing checked before leaving the hospital.

