



Milestones Matter

Your Child's Communication: FIRST GRADE

By the end of first grade, your child should be able to do the following tasks in each area:

Listening

- Remember what she hears
- Follow two- to three-step directions in a row

Speaking

- Speak clearly so that anyone can understand him
- Answer harder yes/no questions
- Tell and retell stories that make sense
- Share her ideas using complete sentences
- Use most parts of speech or grammar correctly
- Ask and answer who, what, when, where and why questions
- Stay on topic and take turns in conversation
- Give directions
- Start conversations

Reading

- Say words that rhyme
- Name all sounds in short words
- Put sounds together to make words
- Match spoken words with written words
- Point to letters, words and sentences
- Sound out words when reading
- Read 100 common words by sight
- Read grade-level books
- Understand what he reads

Writing

- Write about her ideas
- Print clearly
- Spell words that he uses a lot
- Begin each sentence with capital letters; end sentences with periods or question marks
- Write stories, journal entries or notes

Here are some things you can do to help your child learn to listen, speak, read and write.

- Talk with your child a lot
- Read different types of books; read every day and talk with your child about the story
- Help your child learn sound patterns of words; you can play rhyming games and point out letters as you read
- Have your child retell stories and talk about his day
- Talk with your child about what you do during the day; give her directions to follow
- Talk about how things are the same and different
- Give your child opportunities to write

This information was adapted with permission from information provided by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.
<https://www.asha.org/public/speech/development/communicationdevelopment.htm>

If you have any concerns about your child's development, you can talk with your pediatrician, seek a clinical speech-language evaluation or contact your child's school district. You can also sign up for a free online hearing and language screening with a speech-language pathologist from Boys Town National Research Hospital at <http://bit.ly/hearing-language-screening> or by calling (531) 355-5610. The screening will let you know if more hearing or language testing is needed for your child.

Clinical Evaluations

Boys Town Pediatrics offers speech-language evaluations and therapy for children with communication concerns. Call 531-355-5807 to schedule an appointment with a speech-language pathologist.

Boys Town National Research Hospital - Downtown Medical Campus
555 N. 30th St.
Omaha, NE 68131

Boys Town Speech-Language Clinic
14015 Flanagan Blvd., Suite 101
Boys Town, NE 68010

Boys Town Center for Behavioral Health offers services for children with behavioral, social-emotional or academic development concerns. Call 531-355-3358 to schedule an appointment.

Boys Town Center for Behavioral Health
13460 Walsh Dr.
Boys Town, NE 68010

Educational Evaluations

Your child may qualify for a free assessment through the school district in which you reside. Some local districts are listed below.

Bellevue Public Schools
402-293-4000

Gretna Public Schools
402-332-3265

Bennington Public Schools
402-238-3044

Millard Public Schools
402-715-8302

DC West Community Schools
402-359-2583

Omaha Public Schools
531-299-0242

Elkhorn Public Schools
402-289-2579

Papillion-La Vista Community Schools
402-537-6200

Fremont Public Schools
402-727-3000

Westside Community Schools
402-390-2100