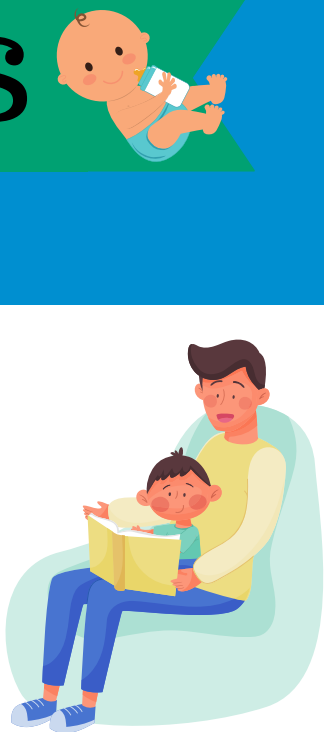


Healthy Eyes, Ears, and Teeth – Ages 0-4

HEALTHY EARS



Hearing loss is when a part of the ear is not working the right way. It can affect one or both ears. Hearing loss may cause problems with speech, learning, social skills, and other behavior.

How can I help my baby's ears stay healthy?

	Baby can..	Parents can...
0 - 3 Months	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Recognize parents' voicesReact to loud soundsReceive screening for hearing loss at birth	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Make sure baby passes newborn screening testCoo, sing and speak to baby every day
4 - 6 Months	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Follow sounds with eyesLaugh and babbleListen to musicNotice changes in tone	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Give toys that make sound, like rattlesImitate baby's sounds to create "conversation"
7 - 12 Months	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Understand basic wordsPractice different soundsHave 1 or 2 words by their first birthday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Play "peek-a-boo"Name items as baby pointsRespond to baby's sounds, gestures and words
1 - 2 Years	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sing simple songsFollow basic directionsUse 2-word phrases by second birthday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Give simple directionsRead books togetherTeach baby songs, stories and rhymes
3 - 4 Years	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Hear from the other roomAnswer simple questionsUse 4-word sentences by third birthday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ask simple questionsTeach child family memories and stories

If your baby seems several months behind, talk to your doctor about a hearing screening.

What are warning signs of hearing loss?

- If you notice any of the following symptoms, talk to your doctor about a hearing screening:
 - Late to speaking as a toddler
 - Does not speak clearly
 - Often asks "huh?" or to repeat phrases
 - Turns volume too high on TV or music
 - Does not react to loud noises
 - Does not respond to your voice
 - Often touches ears, shakes head, or shows other signs of ear pain

