How am I doing?

When I am 12 months, if I can **say up to 21 words** on my own, actively **listen**, wave **bye-bye**, look around when asked “**where is_____?**”, and use real and toy objects to **act out common actions**, e.g., feeding, cleaning, etc., then I’m doing great!

When I am 18 months, if I can **say 46 – 120 words**, **follow two-step directions**, **anticipate actions** with announced routines, (e.g., bath-time) and **point to named objects**, then I’m right on track!

When I am 24 months, if I can **say 146 – 451 words**, **combine two to three words**, **produce plurals (~s and ~ing)**, **enjoy nursery rhymes**, **finger play and songs**, and **put together two to three actions** in symbolic play, then I’m ready to take off with learning all about my world!

When I am 30 months, if I can **say 363 – 608 words**, **speak in simple sentences**, have my **speech understood** by my family, **listen to real stories**, and start **role playing my life experiences**, (e.g., going to the doctor) then watch out world!

When I am 36 months, if I can **say so many words you can’t count them**, have my **speech understood by more than half** the people I meet, use “**I, me, my**” and **“you” correctly**, answer **what, where, when, and who questions**, and **retell familiar stories**, then I will talk, listen, learn, play, and continue to develop skills. I will ask questions. I will learn to read. I will have friends. Isn’t life wonderful?

**Early identification is critical**
If I’m not meeting these minimum guidelines, it might be a good idea to send me for an **early detection speech, language, hearing evaluation**, by faxing an order to Cook Children’s Rehab Services at 682-885-7590, or to any other preferred speech, language pathology service provider.

References: MacArthur Bates CDI; Receptive-Expressive Emergent Language Test-3; Brown’s Stages