

## Speech and Language Therapy – Concept Milestones

Age	Vocabulary Words	Expectation
1 – 2 years	In, on, another, up, down	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The child can follow simple spatial directions (e.g. teddy on table)</li> <li>The child can use simple directional words</li> <li>The child can use two or three concepts when communicating</li> </ul>
2 – 3 years	Under, many, one, two, big, little, off, on, out of, together, away from, soon, later, wait	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The child can identify the difference between in and under, one and many</li> <li>The child is beginning to understand time concepts (e.g. soon, later, wait)</li> <li>The child can select three things that are the same and then not the same from a set of four objects</li> <li>The child is starting to use describing words for colour and size</li> </ul>
3 – 4 years	Empty, full, a lot, same, both, next to, beside, between, behind, in front, around	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The child can follow directions that include quantity concepts (e.g. empty, a lot)</li> <li>The child can identify colours</li> <li>The child can point to an item that's different from the others</li> </ul>
4 – 5 years	Big, bigger, biggest, yesterday, today, tomorrow, first, then, next, days of the week, last week, next week, different, nearest, through, thin, thick, whole, first, middle, last, hard, soft, smooth, rough, hot, cold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The child can understand comparative and superlative describing words (e.g. big, bigger, biggest)</li> <li>The child has a greater understanding of time</li> <li>The child understands positional concepts (e.g. first, middle, last)</li> </ul>
5 – 6 years	Opposite concepts: big/little, over/under, left/right. Number concepts up to 20, yesterday, tomorrow, backward, forward, nearest, corner, middle, first, second, third.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The child can understand and answer "how are these the same/different?"</li> <li>The child uses adjectives (describing words) to talk about something</li> <li>The child uses a range of concepts at sentence level</li> </ul>

*Adapted from:* LinguSystems Guide to Communication Milestones by Janet R. Lanza and Lynn K. Flahive and Teaching Basic Concepts for Early School Success! by Keri Spielvogel, M.C.D., CCC-SLP

## Speech and Language Therapy – Concept Baseline Checklist

Age	Concept	Never	Some of the time	Most of the time	Always
1 – 2 years	in				
	on				
	another				
	up				
	down				
2 – 3 years	under				
	many				
	one				
	two				
	big				
	little				
	off				
	on				
	out of				
	together				
	away from				
	soon				
	later				
wait					
3 – 4 years	empty				
	full				
	a lot				
	same				
	both				

	next to				
	beside				
	between				
	behind				
	in front				
	around				
4 – 5 years	big				
	bigger				
	biggest				
	yesterday				
	today				
	tomorrow				
	first				
	then				
	next				
	days of the week				
	different				
	nearest				
	through				
	thin				
	thick				
	whole				
	first				
	middle				
	last				
	hard				
	soft				

	smooth				
	rough				
	hot				
	cold				
5 – 6 years	opposite concepts: big / little				
	opposite concepts: over / under				
	opposite concepts: left / right				
	number concepts up to 20				
	yesterday				
	tomorrow				
	backward				
	forward				
	nearest				
	corner				
	middle				
	first				
	second				
third					