

## 9 MONTHS – Bababa Baby Talk Translated...or not



Your baby is now 9 months old! You have probably found that your baby is very curious about everything. This month we'll talk about speech and language development, and how you are feeling.

### It's time to complete the 9-month Looksee Checklist!

#### Does your child:

- Look for a hidden toy?
- Imitate facial expressions?
- Turn to look for the source of a sound?
- Understand short instructions? (“wave bye-bye!”, “no”, “don’t touch”)
- Babble a series of different sounds? (“babababa”, “huhduhduhduh”)
- Make sounds or gestures to get attention or help?
- Sit without support for a few minutes?
- Attempt to move by crawling, “bum” shuffling, or pivoting on tummy?
- Stand with support when helped into a standing position?
- Pass an object from one hand to another?
- Pick up small items using thumb and first finger? (crumbs, cereal, rice)
- Bang two objects together?
- Play games with you? (nose touching, peek-a-boo)
- Fuss or cry if familiar caregiver looks or behaves differently?
- Reach to be picked up or held?

**Follow up with your health care provider if you answered ‘no’ to any of these questions or if you have concerns about your child’s development.**

If your child was premature, check the website for guidance about which checklist to use.

[Looksee Checklist](#)



## Speech and Language

In the first year of life, your baby learns from watching your face and listening to your voice. The more you talk, sing, play, and read with them, the more sounds and words they will learn.

### Tips for helping your baby develop speech and language skills:

- Speak to your baby face-to-face so they can watch your face and interact with you more easily.
- Follow your baby's lead and repeat sounds and babble.
- Sing and talk throughout daily routines.
- Name familiar objects.
- Avoid the use of screen time.

Read brightly coloured books with pictures of things your baby sees every day (e.g., food, animals, and clothing).

### Kid Talk

Learn more about enhancing your child's [speech skills](#), tips for [communicating with your child](#), and the importance of [hearing and vision](#) in the development of language at [kidtalk.on.ca](http://kidtalk.on.ca).

Have a good month!  
We'll connect again next month when your baby turns 10 months old.

