

It Takes Two to Talk® Offered via Telepractice

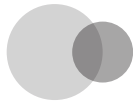
The Hanen Program® for Parents of Children with Language Delays

My Child’s Stage of Communication Development

Before you can help your child develop better communication skills, you need to know his stage of communication and all the things he is doing to communicate at that stage. There are four stages of communication: **Discoverer, Communicator, First Words User** and **Combiner**. Read the checklists below, which describe these four stages in terms of what your child **understands** and what he can **express**. Check off all the items under each column that apply to your child’s communication right now.

The blue shaded boxes under the name of each stage contain a brief description of the defining feature of that stage for both understanding and expression. After you have checked off all the items in the checklist that apply to your child’s communication, look at the stage name above the last blue shaded box you checked off for both understanding and expression. That’s your child’s stage. You may find that your child’s stage for understanding is different from his stage for expression.

Discoverer	
Understanding	Expression
<input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't yet understand what words mean	<input type="checkbox"/> Reacts to his environment. He does not yet send messages on purpose
<input type="checkbox"/> Recognizes familiar voices <input type="checkbox"/> Turns his head towards sound <input type="checkbox"/> Responds when I call his name by looking at me, moving his body or holding still <input type="checkbox"/> Recognizes a few gestures, such as when I hold my arms out before picking him up <input type="checkbox"/> Shows he knows what's coming next in a daily routine e.g., when I hold up his socks, he lifts his foot up	<input type="checkbox"/> Cries in different ways, depending on what he needs <input type="checkbox"/> Closes his eyes or turns away when he doesn't want something <input type="checkbox"/> Looks at faces with interest <input type="checkbox"/> Becomes quiet or smiles when spoken to <input type="checkbox"/> Makes sounds and moves his body - e.g., wiggles, kicks, when he is spoken to or smiled at <input type="checkbox"/> Makes a variety of facial expressions <input type="checkbox"/> Turns towards sounds/my voice <input type="checkbox"/> Moves his body - e.g., reaches when he wants something <input type="checkbox"/> Imitates actions - e.g., bangs on his high chair <input type="checkbox"/> Makes sounds, like "aaah," "oooh," "guh," "muh" <input type="checkbox"/> Babbles - e.g., "bababa," "mamama" <input type="checkbox"/> Imitates sounds I make <input type="checkbox"/> Enjoys games like Peek-a-boo



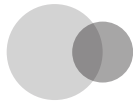
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Communicator	
Understanding	Expression
<input type="checkbox"/> Understands familiar words in everyday situations	<input type="checkbox"/> Sends messages on purpose using a combination of looks, sounds and/or gestures (without using words)*
<input type="checkbox"/> Understands familiar words in routine situations, like <i>bye bye</i> or <i>up</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Communicates for a variety of reasons, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To protest/refuse something - e.g., shakes head for “no” • To make a request - e.g., hands me container to open • To get attention - e.g., makes sounds, gestures • To show/give me something - e.g., hands me a toy • To greet/say goodbye - e.g. waves <i>bye bye</i> • To respond to others - e.g., points to/hands me object I asked about • To point out something of interest - e.g., points to object/person and looks back at me
<input type="checkbox"/> Understands names of familiar objects like <i>bottle</i> , <i>light</i> or <i>ball</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Strings sounds together that almost sound like speech (jargon)
<input type="checkbox"/> Responds to simple questions like, “Where’s your teddy bear?” by moving to the object, looking at or pointing to it	<input type="checkbox"/> Consistently makes sounds that mean something specific - e.g., “huh-huh” (panting for a dog)
<input type="checkbox"/> Follows simple directions when these are paired with gestures	<input type="checkbox"/> Occasionally uses a single word
<input type="checkbox"/> Understands the word “no”	

First Words User	
Understanding	Expression
<input type="checkbox"/> Understands the names of many familiar objects, people and animals	<input type="checkbox"/> Communicates primarily by using single words*
<input type="checkbox"/> Can point to many body parts and familiar objects	<input type="checkbox"/> Uses a large number of gestures and sounds
<input type="checkbox"/> Follows a few simple instructions without the adult showing or using gestures - e.g., “kiss the baby”	<input type="checkbox"/> Imitates sounds (e.g. animal/car sounds) and words
<input type="checkbox"/> Can answer yes-or-no questions, such as, “Do you want some banana?”	<input type="checkbox"/> Uses single words for all the same reasons as a Communicator , as well as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ask a question - e.g., “Dada?” with rising intonation to ask where Dad is • To comment - e.g., “wet!”
<input type="checkbox"/> Responds to simple <i>where</i> and <i>what</i> questions - e.g. “Where’s your shoe?” or “What do you want to drink?”	<input type="checkbox"/> Uses a variety of word types, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People - e.g., “mama” • Objects - e.g., “ball” • Social words - e.g., “bye bye” • Rejection/ Refusal - e.g., “no” • Actions - e.g., “eat” • Describing words - e.g., “big” • Location words - e.g., “there”
	<input type="checkbox"/> Uses gestures and words together - e.g., asks to be picked up by lifting his arms while saying, “up”
	<input type="checkbox"/> Uses 10-25 words
	<input type="checkbox"/> Uses 25-50 words
	<input type="checkbox"/> Occasionally says 2 word phrases





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Combiner	
Understanding	Expression
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Understands many words and more complex ideas</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Understands more complex ideas - e.g., in/out, over/under, dirty/clean</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Can understand <i>what</i>, <i>where</i> and <i>who</i> questions - e.g., “What do you wear on your feet?”, “Who is at the door?”</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Follows instructions without the adult showing or using gestures - e.g., “Go get your shoes”</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Follows 2 step instructions - e.g., “Pick up your pajamas and put them in the laundry basket.”</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Follows simple stories</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Communicates primarily by using 2 or more word phrases</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Says more than 50 different words</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Uses 2 word phrases to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make requests - e.g., “open door”• Make comments - e.g., “big bug”• Ask questions that start with <i>what</i> and <i>where</i> - e.g., “Where ball?” May ask <i>why</i>• Talk about things beyond the here-and-now - e.g., “Birdie gone” (the past), “Go zoo” (the future) <p><input type="checkbox"/> Uses a variety of word types in 2 word phrases (see list under First Words User) - e.g., People (“<i>dada</i> up”); Objects (“<i>ball</i> gone?”); Social words (“<i>bye</i> nana”); Rejection/refusal (“<i>no</i> bed”); as well as Pronouns (“<i>I</i>go”), Belonging words (“<i>my</i> car”)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Starts to use 3 or more word phrases - e.g., “Mama more milk”</p>