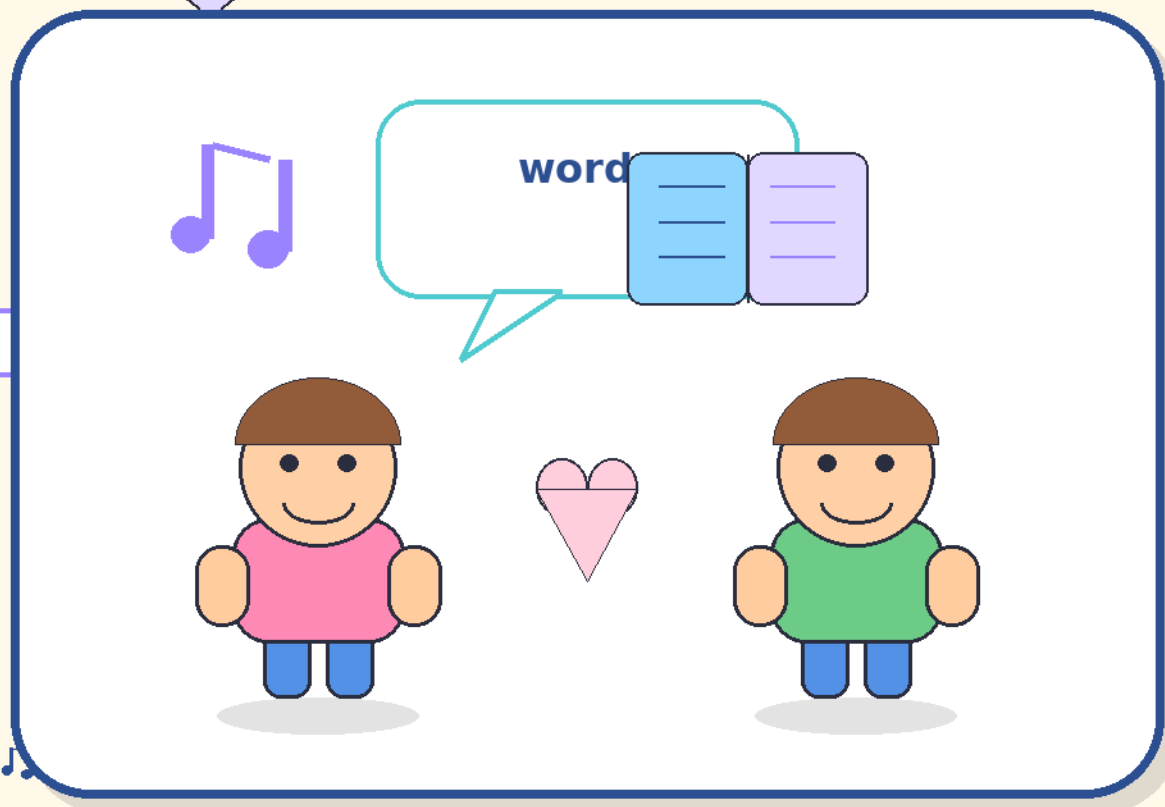


Toddler Communication Observation Tracker

A parent-friendly printable for noticing words, sounds, gestures, songs and everyday communication



This tracker does not diagnose. It helps you prepare helpful notes before asking for advice.

How to Use This Tracker

Observe gently for one week



1

Watch without pressure

Notice sounds, gestures, words, songs and understanding during everyday routines.

2

Write simple examples

Use real phrases your child says or gestures your child uses. Short notes are enough.

3

Look for patterns

Think about what helps, what causes frustration and what your child enjoys.

4

Take notes to an appointment

Bring this tracker to your GP, health visitor, nursery team or speech and language therapist.

Important: If your child loses words or skills, does not respond to sound, or you feel worried, seek professional advice promptly.

Words My Toddler Uses

Write the words you hear, even if pronunciation is not perfect



People

mummy, daddy, nanny

Food and drink

milk, juice, banana

Toys and play

ball, car, teddy

Actions

go, up, stop

Animals and sounds

dog, moo, woof

Everyday words

bye, no, more

Tip: Count meaningful attempts, signs and consistent sound patterns as helpful communication notes.

Sounds and Gestures

Communication is more than spoken words



☐ Points to what they want

☐ Waves hello or goodbye

☐ Reaches or gives objects

☐ Shows you toys or pictures

☐ Copies animal sounds

☐ Uses facial expressions

☐ Pulls you toward something

☐ Nods or shakes head

☐ Uses signs or actions

☐ Looks between you and an object

My child also communicates by:

Songs My Toddler Responds To

Notice joining in, looking, actions and sounds



Old MacDonald

animal sounds

☐

Looks

☐

Moves

☐

Sounds



Wheels on the Bus

actions and repeated words

☐

Looks

☐

Moves

☐

Sounds



If You're Happy

clap, stomp, hooray

☐

Looks

☐

Moves

☐

Sounds



Head, Shoulders

body part words

☐

Looks

☐

Moves

☐

Sounds



Five Little Ducks

quack and counting

☐

Looks

☐

Moves

☐

Sounds



Row Your Boat

shared attention

☐

Looks

☐

Moves

☐

Sounds

Other songs my child enjoys:

Best song for joining in:

What My Toddler Understands

Tick everyday language your child responds to



☐ Comes when called

☐ Looks for a named person

☐ Gives a familiar object

☐ Follows 'come here'

☐ Follows 'sit down'

☐ Points to a picture

☐ Finds a favourite toy

☐ Understands 'no' or 'stop'

☐ Points to body parts

☐ Chooses between two items

☐ Understands simple routine words

☐ Follows one-step directions

Notes: What does your child understand best at home, nursery or with familiar adults?

Communication Frustration Notes

Notice what happens before and after upset moments



What usually causes frustration?

Example: hungry, tired, toy taken, cannot ask for help

How does my child show frustration?

Example: crying, pointing, pulling, shouting, dropping to floor

What helps them calm or communicate?

Example: choice of two items, gesture, picture, song, cuddle

Words, signs or gestures to practise gently

Example: more, help, up, stop, all done

Reminder: Behaviour is often communication. Look for what your child may be trying to tell you.

Questions to Ask for Support

Take this page to an appointment



☐ Should my child have a hearing check?

☐ Do these milestones suggest we need more support?

☐ Should we request speech and language therapy?

☐ Are nursery observations helpful?

☐ What should we practise at home?

☐ Are there signs I should watch for urgently?

☐ Could feeding, hearing or sensory needs be involved?

☐ When should we review progress?

My main concern:

Professional advice given:

Next step:

One-Week Communication Tracker

Short notes are enough



Day	New word/sound	Gesture	Song/play response
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Mon			
-----	-------------	-------------	-------------

Tue			
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Wed			
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Thu			
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Fri			
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Sat			
-----	-------------	-------------	-------------

Sun			
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Use this as a helpful record, not a test. Every sound, look, point and word matters.

Favourite Communication Games

Play, sing, wait and respond



Ready, Steady, Go

Pause before 'go' and wait.

☐

Try this

☐

Worked well

Animal Sound Game

Take turns making silly sounds.

☐

Try this

☐

Worked well

Choice Game

Hold up two items and wait.

☐

Try this

☐

Worked well

Picture Book Talk

Point, name and copy sounds.

☐

Try this

☐

Worked well

Bubble Pop

Say pop, more, again or all done.

☐

Try this

☐

Worked well

Bus Song Actions

Let your child choose the next action.

☐

Try this

☐

Worked well

My child's favourite game:

A new game to try:

Communication Wins

Celebrate small steps



**Small steps
count**



This week I noticed...

A sound or word my child tried:

A gesture my child used:

A song or game they enjoyed:

Something I want to ask about:

You are paying attention with love.