

Babies hear from the moment they are born. Your baby must learn to recognize and respond to your voice. It is necessary that your baby can hear well so he/she can learn to speak.

If your baby does not hear well you could lose many important experiences. Parents should be alert to any signs of a hearing loss. If you suspect that your baby does not hear normally, ask for a full audiology test for your baby.

It's never too late to evaluate your baby's hearing!

Visit **www.HowsYourHearing.org** to
“Find an Audiologist” in your local area.

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF AUDIOLOGY 
800-AAA-2336
www.audiology.org

The Addition of Your Baby

It's Never Too Early to Examine
Your Baby's Hearing



American Academy of Audiology

Stages in the Hearing of the Baby

Birth to **three months...**

- Startles or scares with loud and sudden sounds
- Stirs, wakes up, or cries when someone talks or makes noise
- Recognizes his/her voice and calms down when spoken to

Three to **six months...**

- Directs eyes to interesting sounds
- Seems that he/she listens
- Wakes up easily when hearing sounds

Six to **twelve months...**

- Turns head to make slight sounds
- Understands when told “no,” “bye-bye,” and “goodbye”
- Begins to imitate sounds of language

Twelve months...

- Says first words as “da-da,” “ma-ma,” or “bye-bye”

Conditions Sometimes Associated with Hearing Loss in Babies

- A family member with permanent hearing loss from birth or childhood
- The presence of an infectious disease at birth (such as rubella, herpes, or syphilis)
- A difficult delivery, or a birth that affected the baby's breathing
- Birth weight less than 3½ pounds
- A misshapen head, face, or ears (including cleft lip or misshapen ears)
- A baby requiring intensive neonatal care (for more than two days after birth)
- A baby who has a disease brain infection (such as meningitis)
- A baby who needs a blood transfusion or transfusion

What You Can Do...Usually the Parents Are the First to Know...

...Generally Parents are the First to Know that their Baby Does Not Hear!

Your baby's hearing can be evaluated at any age by an audiologist. If you are concerned or have questions about your baby's hearing, consult an audiologist.

