

SPEECH DEVELOPMENTAL NORMS

6 YEARS



/TH (VOICELESS)/

5 YEARS

**/TH (VOICED), ZH, R/
INTELLIGIBLE
MOST OF THE TIME
(EVEN WITH STRANGERS)**



4 YEARS

**/S, Z, SH, CH, V, J, L/
INTELLIGIBLE
MOST OF THE TIME
(EVEN WITH STRANGERS)**

3 YEARS

**/B, T, D, K, G,
M, N, NG, F, H, Y, W/**



2 YEARS

**/P/
INTELLIGIBLE AROUND
50% OF THE TIME
(MORE OFTEN WITH THEIR
PARENTS)**

Average age of acquisition of English consonants across the world (90-100% criteria)
The review was based on 15 studies of 7,369 children speaking English in Australia, Republic of Ireland, Malaysia, South Africa, United Kingdom, and United States (McLeod & Crowe, 2018)

McLeod, S., & Crowe, K. (2018). Children's consonant acquisition in 27 languages: A cross-linguistic review. *American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology*, 27, 1546-1571. doi:10.1044/2018_AJSLP-17-0100

McLeod, S., Crowe, K., & Shahaieian, A. (2015). Intelligibility in Context Scale: Normative and validation data for English-speaking preschoolers. *Language, Speech, and Hearing Services in Schools*, 46(3), 266-276. doi:10.1044/2015_LSHSS-14-0120

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ELIMINATION OF PHONOLOGICAL PROCESSES

6 YEARS

- **GLIDING**
(e.g., "yeyow" for 'yellow')

5 YEARS

- **DEPALATISATION**
(e.g., "fit" for 'fish')
- **CLUSTER REDUCTION WITH /S/**
(e.g., "top" for 'stop')
- **STOPPING OF /SH, CH, J, TH/**
(e.g., "top" for 'chop')

4 YEARS

- **BY 3.5 YEARS:**
 - STOPPING OF /V/ AND /Z/** (e.g., "doo" for 'zoo')
 - FRONTING** (e.g., "tar" for 'car')

- **BY 4 YEARS:**
 - DEAFFRICATION** (e.g., "share" for 'chair')
 - WEAK SYLLABLE DELETION** (e.g., "nana" for 'banana')
 - CLUSTER REDUCTION W/O /S/** (e.g., "back" for 'black')

BY 3 YEARS

- **ASSIMILATION** (e.g., "nanana" for 'banana')
- **FINAL CONSONANT DELETION** (e.g., "bir" for 'bird')
- **REDUPLICATION** (e.g., "bobo" for 'bottle')
- **AFFRICATION** (e.g., "choo" for 'shoe')
- **STOPPING OF /F/ AND /S/** (e.g., "ton" for 'sun')
- **PRE-VOCALIC VOICING** (e.g., "big" for 'pig')