

## Speech and Language Developmental Milestones for 6 year olds

# Now that I am in Grade 1 ... I should be able to;

### Understanding of Language

- Listen to and understand longer picture books
- Sit and focus in class discussion
- Follow a series of instructions independently
- Listen to a story without pictures

### Language Use

- 6 year olds should be independent communicators with adult-like grammar and a vocabulary of 2500 words
- Use language with few or no grammatical errors
- Ask complex questions to learn new information
- Provide detailed answers to things I have done
- Explain reasons for things happening
- Retell a story without any need from prompts
- Generate ideas and sentences for assigned written tasks

### Speech

- Speech should be understood by teacher and peers
- Few speech sound errors should persist
- Use P, B, M, W, Y, H, T, D, N, K, G, F, ING, J, V, SH, CH, and L sounds correctly in words

### Play and Social Skills

- Keep myself occupied independently on a task or activity for 20-30 minutes
- Play fairly in complex games with rules
- Talk easily with familiar people
- Be able to maintain a conversation on the same topic for at least 5 conversational turns
- Use words to explain emotions such as anger, sadness, or worry rather than physical actions



**If you have any concerns regarding your student's speech and language development, consult with the speech-language pathologist assigned to your school**

### Tips for promoting speech and language development

- Encourage your students to retell a story they have read by remembering what happened
- Ask your students what they did at home the night before or over the weekend
- Encourage your students to ask when they don't know the meaning of a word
- Talk about events that have happened, giving detail and emphasizing the order of events (first, then, next, finally)

### Causes for Concern

- Use of very short sentences
- Frequent grammatical errors when using he/she pronouns and past tense (I runned)
- Difficulty expressing themselves so that others understand their story
- Speech is difficult to understand
- Does not sit and listen to a story
- Has trouble following instructions and often forgets what they were asked to do