Your baby first “talks” to you by crying. He then learns to make sounds and smile. Eventually he’ll start to use words.

1st month
- responds when you talk
- “talks” by smiling, gazing and crying

2nd month
- discovers his voice – gurgles, coos and squeals

3rd month
- makes long vowel sounds (“ah”)
- has different cries for different needs

4th month
- babbles (“ba-ba”)
- squeals
- tries to copy the sounds you make

5th month
- turns head towards a person speaking

6th month
- makes longer and more varied sounds
- tries out different volumes and pitches
- makes sputtering sounds with his lips and tongue
- “talks” to toys

SEEK CARE
Are you concerned about your baby’s development? Remember – every child is unique. But talk with your health care provider if your baby:
- has a very stiff or floppy body
- doesn’t watch faces by 2 to 3 months
- is unusually quiet and still, or can never settle
- doesn’t react to loud noise
- holds his hands in tight fists
- doesn’t follow activities with his eyes
- doesn’t recognize you
- doesn’t make sounds
- has a lot of trouble feeding

KEY TAKEAWAY
Talk to your baby all the time and respond whenever he communicates with you.

DID YOU KNOW
You can talk to your baby in whatever language you feel most comfortable. In fact, your baby can learn more than one language without getting confused.

BRAIN BUILDER
- Read, tell stories and sing to your baby.
- When you’re bathing or diapering him, chat with him about what you’re doing.
- Try to let him see your face when you’re talking.
- Repeat and respond to his coos and babbles.