LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT SCALES
(Adapted from Various Sources: Gesell, Doll, etc.)

4 WEEKS

EXPRESSIVE

1. Does he cry?
2. Does he cry a great deal?
3. Is his cry loud and strong?
4. Does his cry change with environmental conditions?
5. Does he make throaty noises?
6. Does he smile when you talk to him?
7. Does he follow you with his eyes as you walk around the room?

RECEPTIVE

1. Does he react to your presence?
2. Does he startle when a loud noise is introduced?
3. Does he blink his eyes with a loud noise?

16 WEEKS

EXPRESSIVE

1. Does he coo?
2. Does he laugh? out loud?
3. Does he smile at your approach?
4. Can you get him to talk back to you?
5. Does he talk to himself when he gets up in the morning?
6. Does he seem to play with his voice, making it go very high, and listening?
7. Does he chuckle?
8. Does he squeal, very high, when he gets excited?
9. Does he anticipate the sight of food by vocalization?
10. Does he anticipate the food by excited movement?
11. Does he respond to his image in the mirror?
12. Does he seem to play peek-a-boo?

RECEPTIVE

1. Does he listen to your voice?
2. Does he listen to the shake of a rattle?
3. Does your talking or singing to him quiet him?
4. Does he turn his head in the direction of your speaking?
28 WEEKS

EXPRESSIVE

1. Does he talk to his toys?
2. Does he grunt or growl?
3. Does he produce vowel sounds?
4. Does he produce consonants?
5. Does he produce syllables?
6. Does he vocalize "m-m-m" when crying?
7. Does he know you?
8. Can he discriminate strangers?
9. Does he tolerate strangers?

RECEPTIVE

1. Does he turn his head to a bell?

40 WEEKS

EXPRESSIVE

1. Does he say "da da"?
2. Does he mean you when he says "mama"?
3. Does he imitate sounds?
4. If you cough or click your tongue, will he do the same thing?
5. Will he wave "bye bye"?
6. Does he play pat-a-cake?
7. Has he any words?
8. Does he use any sounds to mean something, even though it doesn't sound like a real word?
9. Does he shake his head yes and no?
10. Does he vocalize with the above response?

RECEPTIVE

1. Does he seem to understand when you talk to him?
2. Does he respond to his name?
3. Does he respond to a "no-no"?
4. Does he understand if you say, "Where's Daddy?"

12 MONTHS

EXPRESSIVE

1. Does he say any words besides "mama" and "dada"?
2. Does he know some of his toys by name?
3. Does he jabber?
4. Does he recognize any pictures?
RECEPTIVE

1. Does he respond to music?
2. Does he respond to primitive rhythm play?
3. Does he understand if you tell him to:
   a. look up
   b. look down
   c. look at me
4. If you ask him for something in his hand, will he give it to you?
5. Would he look if you asked "Where is your ball?"
6. Does he seem to know some of his toys?

EXPRESSIVE

1. Does he exhibit a type of jargon speech?
2. Does he jabber quite a bit?
3. Does he use 4 or 5 words?
4. Does he indicate his wants by pointing?
5. Does he indicate his wants by pointing and vocalizing?
6. Does he name or point to one picture in a book?
7. Does he use gestures?
8. Has he any words for his toys, like ball, doll, car, etc.?
9. Has he any words for food like milk, cookie?
10. Has he any words for his clothes, like shoe, hat, socks?
11. Does he have ten words?
12. Does he pull you or indicate that he wants to show you something?

RECEPTIVE

1. Does he throw the ball upon request?
2. Does he put it on the floor?
3. Does he put it on the table?
4. Does he give it to "me"?
5. Does he give it to "mother"?

EXPRESSIVE

1. Does he name three pictures when a book is shown to him?
2. Does he have 25 words in his vocabulary?
3. Is he beginning to put two words together -- two words that join two ideas like "daddy go" or "bye car"?
4. Does he refer to himself by name: "Johnny fall"?
5. Does he refer to himself by use of a pronoun: "I" or "me"?
6. Does he ask for food?
7. Does he verbalize toilet needs?
8. Does his play include domestic mimicry, like putting the doll to bed?
9. Is the jargon discarded?
10. Does he combine three words?
11. Does he throw the ball upon request?
RECEPTIVE

1. Does he throw the ball upon request?
2. Does he put the ball on the table?
3. Does he give it to "me"?
4. Does he give it to "Mother"?
5. Does he point to the picture when you say "Show me the dog"?

36 MONTHS

EXPRESSIVE

1. Is he beginning to use sentences?
2. Does he give his name if you ask him?
3. Does he give his last name?
4. Does he give his sex if you ask him?
5. Does he name five pictures in the picture book?
6. Can he give the use of objects?
7. Can anyone understand him?
8. Does he use plurals?
9. Does he know nursery rhymes?
10. Does he cooperate in play with other children?
11. Does he talk when he plays alone?

RECEPTIVE

1. Does he seem to remember directions?
2. Can you direct him to do two things like "close the book and give it to me"?
3. Will he upon command put the ball
   a. on the chair
   b. under the chair
   c. in front of the chair
   d. in back of the chair
   e. beside the chair
4. Does he listen to stories?

4 to 5 YEARS

EXPRESSIVE

1. Can he count to three?
2. Does he tell tales or stories?
3. Does his vocabulary reach 1000 words or more?
4. Does he use words such as "and", "or", "but"?
5. Does he question a great deal?
6. Are his responses often silly and his language silly?
7. Does he show interest in new words?

RECEPTIVE

1. Does he listen to stories and being read to with sustained interest?
2. Does he enjoy being read to?