

# COMMUNICATION RED FLAGS

## AGES 4-5

**How to use the checklist:** Tick the box if the child is displaying that communication skill. General observations and examples of the child's communication skills can be written in the box at the bottom of the page. This checklist is based off 'red flags' for communication development. Please note it is not a standardised assessment and should be used as a guide only. If any of the boxes have not been ticked, please use your knowledge of the child along with this checklist to guide your decision for referral to a speech pathologist.

### SOCIAL COMMUNICATION

- ☐ Plays and cooperates with others
- ☐ Shows interest in group activities
- ☐ Plays purposefully

### RECEPTIVE COMMUNICATION

- ☐ Follows 3 stage commands with 6 linguistic elements (i.e. 3 verbs + 3 nouns)
- ☐ Understands time-related words (eg. before/after, yesterday/tomorrow, now/later)
- ☐ Begins to recognise some letters, sounds and numbers

### EXPRESSIVE COMMUNICATION

- ☐ Produces 2100-2200 words
- ☐ Speaks in grammatically correct sentences
- ☐ Maintains longer conversations easily
- ☐ Forms simple short stories with a clear beginning, middle and end
- ☐ Uses appropriate tense (eg. past, present, future)
- ☐ Uses most speech sounds but may still have difficulties with 's', 'r', 'l', and 'th' sounds

### YOUR OBSERVATIONS

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Reference: Pepper, J., & Weitzman, E. (2004). It Takes Two to Talk: A Practical Guide for Parents of Children with Language Delays (4th ed.). Toronto: The Hanen Centre.