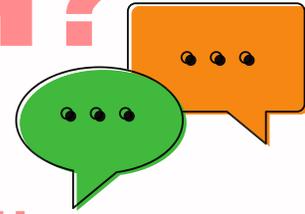


**WHAT IS
SPEECH?**

**WHAT IS
LANGUAGE?**

**LEARN THE DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN SPEECH &
LANGUAGE, AND
EXAMPLES OF EACH.**

WHAT IS SPEECH?



TALKING ----- SOUNDS ----- SPEECH

SPEECH refers to the actual sounds your child produces, with the coordination of the tongue, lips, teeth, jaw, and vocal chords used for talking.

SPEECH difficulties may include:

-speech sound errors ("poon" for "spoon"), sound substitutions ("maf" for "math"), syllable deletion ("lay-bug" for "la-dy-bug")

**It is important to note that certain sound errors are normal and expected at certain ages. By approximately age 6 or 7, your child should be producing all sounds correctly.*

Earliest developing sounds (2-3 yrs):

p, b, m, d, n, h, t, k, g, w, ng, f, y

Middle sounds (3-4 yrs):

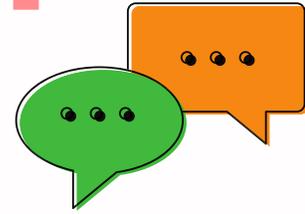
l, j, ch, s, v, sh, z

Later sounds (5-6 yrs):

r, zh, th

Adapted from McCleod and Crowe, 2018

WHAT IS SPEECH?



TALKING ----- SOUNDS ----- SPEECH

SPEECH difficulties can also include disfluencies or stuttering (word or phrase repetitions), such as: "I-I-I-I want so-so-so-some juice". Stuttering can also include prolongations ("SSSSSwimming is fun.")

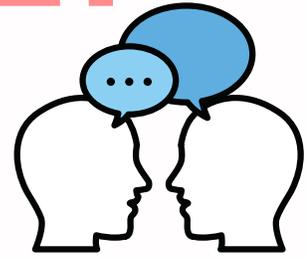
Developmental stuttering can occur between 2-5 yrs of age (about 5% of children may exhibit disfluencies at some point), and typically involves word or phrase repetitions.

If the disfluencies last longer than 6 months, or if your child exhibits physical tension or struggle when speaking, frustration, or blocks (no sound comes out while trying to speak), this is an indication of atypical disfluencies that are not likely due to developmental stuttering.

*If you have concerns about your child's speech, it is always best to have your child evaluated by a Speech Language Pathologist.

WHAT IS LANGUAGE?

MEANING-----SYSTEM-----SYMBOLS



LANGUAGE refers to a system of communication used to convey meaning and how words, sounds, and written symbols are combined to make meaning. It can be written, spoken, signed, or non-verbal communication.

EXPRESSIVE LANGUAGE is how communication is **used** in words, sentences, signs, etc. This includes using vocabulary, grammar, forming questions, initiating communication, etc.

RECEPTIVE LANGUAGE is how language is **understood** and interpreted. This includes understanding nonverbal and verbal communication, following directions, answering questions, taking turns, etc.

LANGUAGE difficulties may include:

- delayed or limited vocabulary
- understanding what is said
- understanding social cues and using appropriate social language, and interacting with others
- putting words together to form sentences/
grammar

*If you have concerns about your child's language skills in any area, don't wait! Have your child evaluated by a Speech Language Pathologist.