

Developing Speech, Language and Communication Skills



By the end of the session...

Speech vs language vs communication

Typical development

Strategies you can use at home

Communication and learning

Q & A



SPEECH = CLARITY OF THE CHILD'S SPEECH AND WHAT SOUNDS THEY CAN MAKE.

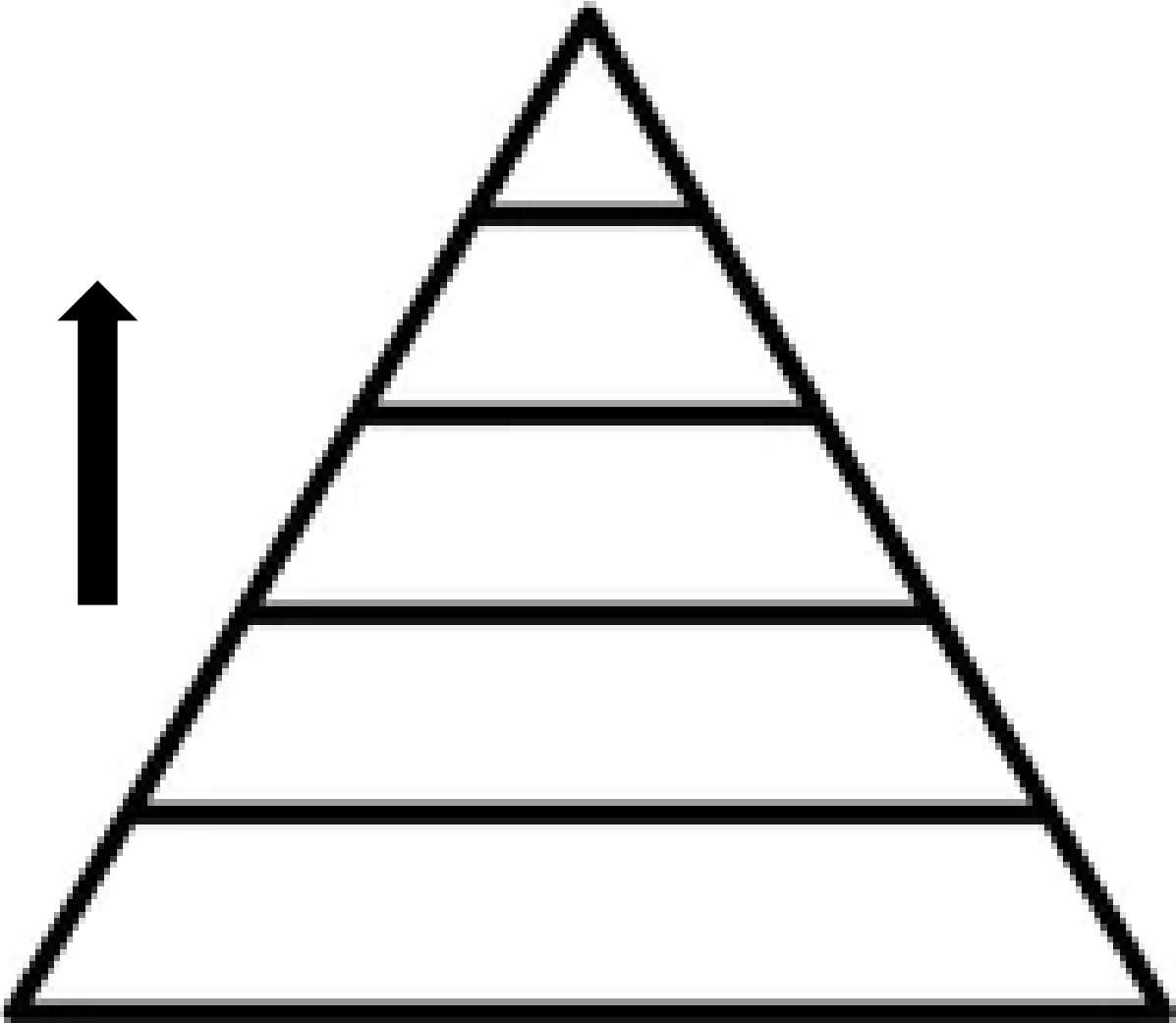


LANGUAGE = HOW MANY WORDS A CHILD KNOWS AND SAYS. IT ALSO REFERS TO WHETHER CHILDREN ARE PUTTING WORDS TOGETHER TO MAKE PHRASES/SENTENCES.



SOCIAL COMMUNICATION = THE USE OF LANGUAGE IN SOCIAL SITUATIONS.

Task 1: Organise these 'building blocks' of communication in order of their development



Expression

Play & Interaction

Understanding

Attention & Listening

Speech

Language Development Pyramid





Understanding of Spoken Language (Receptive)



Understanding
what is being
said & following
instructions.



Video Clip



Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3k_gbicdYLg&t=2s

Top Tips

- Keep language simple.
- Repetition of words.
- Show them (e.g. real objects, photos, pictures).
- Balancing questions and comments.



Top Tips

(older students)

- Vocabulary (be mindful of using tricky words).
- Break down longer instructions.
- Check for understanding.
- Give enough time.
- Encourage children to recognize when they haven't understood.





Spoken Language
(Expressive)

Expressive Language

- Refers to the ability to put ideas into words/sentences.
- Children will develop their first words then start putting words together. Children then move on to using sentences.





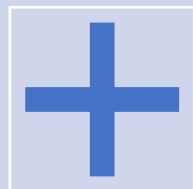
Top Tips



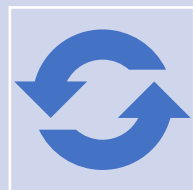
Top Tips



Model lots of language.



Repeat and Add.

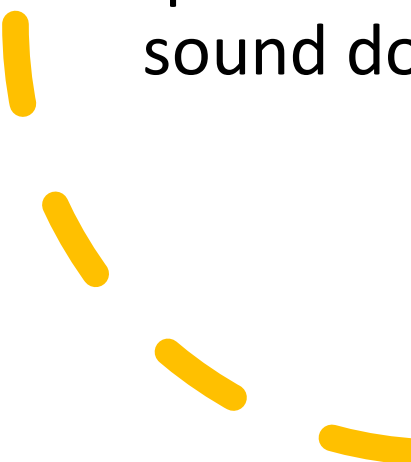


Repetition.



Top Tips

(older students)

- Don't correct mistakes in grammar or word order.
 - Ask open ended questions.
 - Wait for the student to respond.
 - If the student is struggling to find a word, help them by asking questions (e.g. what does it look like, where do you find it, what sound does it start with).
- 

Things to consider

Difficulties with Understanding and Spoken Language may include:

- Limited vocabulary.
- Difficulties with grammar.
- Difficulties 'finding' words.
- Uses shorter / incomplete sentences.
- Not remember what has been said to them.
- Difficulties following instructions.



Speech Sounds

Things to consider

- Typically, children follow a pattern of speech sound development.
- Some sounds develop later than others.
- By 2½ a child's speech should be understood by their close family.
- By 4 a child's speech should be understood most of the time.

Age**Sounds**

2 ½ - 3
years

m n p b t d w h

3 – 4 years

m n p b t d w h k g f s

4 – 5 years

m n p b t d w h k g f s l maybe sh

5+ years

m n p b t d w h k g f s z l sh ch j r th
Blends

Task 2:

Try saying these sentences whilst replacing all 's' sounds with 'd' sounds.

- One sunny Sunday, I went cycling on my bicycle in Benjasiri Park.
- The snake slithered down the slide.
- On Saturday, I will play soccer and basketball.
- The salad has lettuce.
- The mouse is sleeping in the house.



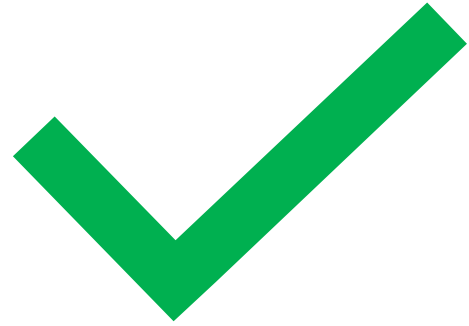
Top Tips

Do....

- Listen to what the child says and not how he/she says it.
- Repeat back the words the child says correctly so that he hears good examples.

Don't....

- 'correct' his speech by saying 'no...it's Jack's house'.
- pretend to understand. Instead, ask the child to show you, point to it or mime it.



Interaction

- Social Skills
- Involves:
 - turn taking
 - listening
 - non-verbal communication
 - voice



Social Groups at School



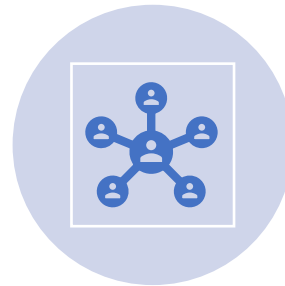
Small intervention groups.



Social Thinking
Framework and
Vocabulary.



















Building skills to lead to
more successful
interactions.








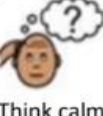












To support conversations,
friendships, perspective
taking and self-regulation.

Zones of Regulation

What zone are you in?

 sad	 tired	 calm	 Ready to learn	 silly	 frustrated	 mad	 angry
 sick	 bored	 happy	 OK	 hyper	 upset	 shouting	 hitting

Is there a tool that might help?

 Drink water	 Count to 10	 Ask to take a walk	 Have computer time	 Tell some jokes	 Think calm place	 Stretch	 Do some exercise	 Ask to eat a snack
 Ask to take a break	 Take deep breaths	 Play with friends	 Read a book	 Listen to music	 Use a fidget	 Talk to someone	 Draw a picture	 Stomp

Screen Time

- Screens are part of our daily lives.
- Try to make it a shared experience (talk / sing etc.).
- Try to relate it to real life experiences.
- Set screen time limits.



Why does it matter?

Children's speech, language and communication are essential life skills.

Evidence shows that speech, language and communication needs have an impact on:

- literacy
- educational attainment
- social, emotional and mental health
- employment

Vocabulary at 5 is the most important factor affecting literacy at age 11

Early language / literacy skills are important in supporting reading, writing and language needed at school.

Children with poor early language at 5 are 4x more likely to struggle with reading at age 11

Speech and Language Therapy at School

- **What does it look like?**
- Direct one to one sessions.
- Group interventions (e.g. social skills, speech groups).
- Advice, strategies and resources for at home and at school.
- Training and support for parents and teachers.



Useful Websites

Speech and Language UK: <https://speechandlanguage.org.uk>

Hanen: <https://www.hanen.org/home.aspx>

NHS Tayside Website: www.slchat.uk

BBC Tiny Happy People: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people>

Q&A



Bilingualism/Multilingualism: how can parents support this at home?

How can children new to learning English communicate with teachers at school?

How can parents support their children to learn English and be confident going to school?

Thank you!

