

FAQ

Sheet

- **What is a Speech-Language Pathologist?**

Speech-language pathologists (SLP), often called speech therapists, assess, diagnose, treat and help to prevent disorders related to speech, language, cognitive-communication, voice, swallowing and fluency.

Terms:

Articulation: How speech sounds are made (e.g., children must learn how to produce the "r" sound in order to say "rabbit" instead of "wabbit").

Language: is made up of socially shared rules that include the following:

- What words mean (e.g., "star" can refer to a bright object in the night sky or a celebrity)
- How to make new words (e.g., friend, friendly, unfriendly)
- How to put words together (e.g., "Peg walked to the new store" rather than "Peg walk store new")
- What word combinations are best in what situations ("Would you mind moving your foot?" could quickly change to "Get off my foot, please!" if the first request did not produce results)

Fluency/Stuttering: The rhythm of speech

Voice: Use of the vocal folds and breathing to produce sound

- **How long will my child be receiving speech and language services?**

The duration of services depends on the amount of progress made. Typically, you can help your child progress faster by working on skills at home. However, each child progresses at their own rate.

- **Why is my child receive speech and language therapy at school?**

To receive speech and language services at school, the child's impairment must be affecting him or her academically. This could mean that it is difficult to understand your child or for your child to express him or herself. It could also mean that your child's impairment is affecting their reading and/or writing.

- **Where can I find additional information?**

- www.asha.org American Speech, Language, and Hearing Association
- <http://www.apraxia-kids.org/>
- <http://www.speechandlanguagekids.com/>
- <http://www.speechlanguage-resources.com/speech-language-blog.html>
- <http://www.stutteringhelp.org/>
- <http://www.autismspeaks.org/what-autism>

Information obtained from www.asha.org on 10/7/2013