

Speech Development through Reading and Music

By Angela Holzer, MA
Author of "Speak With Me Books"

TIPS ON SPEECH DEVELOPMENT

- 1 Know the Typical Age Range of Sound Development & Mastery
Every parent should know the range of when sounds develop & are mastered. Having a **Sound Chart** is critical as parents monitor their child's development and in turn prevent speech delays. This will help parents take control and be aware of their child's speech development.
(2009 Sound Charts are available through www.speakwithmebooks.com)

- 2 "Speak With Me Approach" for Teaching Sounds, Words and Phrases
 - A. Teach
 - B. Model
 - C. Prompt(A detailed description is found in the introduction of every **Speak With Me** book.)

- 3 Do's of Speech Development

Do...own a Sound Chart! (most important!)
Do...read "Sammy Learns To Talk" periodically to assess your child's speech.
Do..."Read 3 books a day to your child." –Mem Fox
Do...speak slowly.
Do...sit face-to-face when demonstrating sounds.
Do...test your child's hearing from birth (See Resources: Sound Chart for hearing behaviors).
Do...repeat! Children learn through repetition. Repeat sounds, words and phrases.
Do...be patient. Some sounds are harder to learn (ie. R, L, S).
Do...sing songs...slow & simple. Most children's songs CDs are too fast for children to sing-a-long (See Resources: Favorite Children's Songs CD: slow & simple).
Do..."Praise your child for her effort and hard work and watch her succeed!"
(from Mindset by Dr. Carol Dweck)

- 4 Don'ts of Speech Development

Don't...let your child watch T.V. before the age of 2 years old.
Don't...use TV/DVDs as a substitute for teaching. Children need live models to help in speech development. Be cautious of programs that use DVDs to teach speech.
Don't...read Dr. Seuss books (with silly words) to children struggling with speech.

RESOURCES

Speak With Me Books, www.speakwithmebooks.com, 1.888.686.2669

Sound Charts

Front side: shows Typical Age Development & Mastery Range of Sounds in girls/boys for 0-8 yrs.

Note: sometimes boys take a little longer with certain sounds.

Back side: shows Speech and Hearing Behaviors important for speech development for 0-5 years, critical in prevention.

Children's Books

Sammy Learns To Talk: **Reviews All Basic Sounds** in the beginning & ending position (colors & animals). Use this as a tool to introduce sounds or assess the speech of children. Have the child repeat the colors & animals.

Sammy Learns To Talk: Teaches the S sound, simple phrases (Are you, You are), and colors.

Goopy Gummy Geese: Teaches the G sound & simple phrases (I have, You have, We have)

Lovely Lily: Teaches the L sound & simple phrases (I like, I love)

Fat Freddy: Teaches the F sound & simple concepts (on, down, in, under)

Sometimes Friends Are Wrong: Teaches the R sound & simple phrases (I am, You are)

My Dog, Eddie!: Teaches the D sound, numbers, Please & Thank You.

CD/Songs

Favorite Children's Songs: Slow & Simple **Reviews All Basic Sounds** for easy sound and word pronunciation!
20 favorite children's songs that teach and review sounds through music!