



Chatter Bugs focuses on the early identification and treatment of speech and language difficulties in children 3 to 5 years old who:

- Are not easily understood during conversations with unfamiliar listeners
- Have been identified as having difficulty with one or more areas of speech or language
- Are not on track with speech/language development milestones

Research has shown that early speech and language delays or disorders can lead to later difficulties learning to read, write and spell. These children are also at risk for difficulty in interacting socially. As a result, the recommendation to "wait and see" has been replaced with early intervention for children whose language development seems delayed. The earlier a problem is detected and treated, the better the outcome.

Does My Preschooler Need an Evaluation?

A Speech-Language Evaluation can determine whether your child's skills are developing normally or whether professional intervention is needed. A thorough evaluation allows the Speech-Language Pathologist to precisely target areas requiring intervention. If your child has had an evaluation within the last six months, an evaluation at *Speech Plus* may not be required. Additionally, if your child has a current IEP from the school district an evaluation may be waived.

What if My Preschooler Needs Therapy?

Our knowledgeable and highly trained Speech-Language Pathologist will develop an individualized therapy plan to meet your child's needs. Children will learn to improve their ability to communicate and interact socially with their peers. *Chatter Bugs* utilizes a play-based approach to intervention with parents playing an integral role in the process. Therapy strategies can be implemented into daily activity including dressing, bathing, eating, reading and playing.

What Makes Speech Plus Different?

Speech Plus is the only area clinic that specializes in communication and learning while providing a fun, nurturing learning environment for your child. We provide a full range of services for children with speech, language and learning disorders.



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PRESCHOOL SPEECH & LANGUAGE MILESTONES

Your 3-Year-Old Should Be:

- Able to follow a three-step command
- Using many sentences that have 4 or more words
- Easily understood by people outside the family most of the time
- Telling short stories
- Answering simple "who, what, where" questions

Your 4-Year-Old Should Be:

- Able to understand number ("give me 3") and spatial concepts ("behind", "next to")
- Using sentences that give lots of details (e.g. "My dog is big, furry and brown.")
- Producing consonants with 90% accuracy
- Talking about experiences at school, friend's homes, etc.
- Using the same grammar as the rest of the family

Your 5-Year-Old Should Be:

- Hearing and understanding most of what is said at home and at school
- Able to understand the concepts "yesterday/tomorrow, more/less, before/after"
- Able to pay attention to a short story and answer simple questions about it
- Using sentences with 6 or more words including compound sentences
- Engaging in conversations

If your preschooler is having difficulties with speech or language, be proactive. Don't "wait & see" until Kindergarten - contact us today!