



Does My Child Need a Speech - Language Evaluation?

The development of communication skills begins in infancy, before the emergence of the first word. Every child develops differently, but there are developmental milestones (available at www.speechplus.org) that can help you determine whether your child is gaining speech and language skills at an appropriate level for his/her age. A speech or language problem is likely to have a significant effect on your child's social, emotional and academic skills. Assisting your child to realize his/her full potential begins with making the proper diagnosis.

My Child Has a Reading Problem. Can You Help?

Speech-Language Pathologists remediate more than just articulation problems. Spoken language and reading have much in common – reading is a sound and language based process. Often there are underlying language based reasons a child is having difficulty learning to read. Spoken language is the foundation for learning to read and write. A Speech-Language Pathologist has the ideal background and training to support reading and writing development. One of the areas *Speech Plus* specializes in is working with students who have language based reading and writing difficulties.

What is the Purpose of a Speech-Language Evaluation?

A Speech-Language Evaluation can determine whether your child's skills are developing normally, and whether or not professional intervention is needed. A thorough evaluation allows the Speech-Language Pathologist to precisely target areas requiring intervention.

What Happens During The Evaluation?

Our licensed and certified Speech-Language Pathologists conduct thorough evaluations to diagnose specific communication challenges. *Speech Plus* carefully evaluates skills through review of developmental history, formal testing and clinical observation. Testing for toddlers is play-based and interactive, while testing for pre-schoolers may also include formal testing. A battery of formal tests is administered to school-age children and often includes an assessment of reading and writing. Following

SPEECH LANGUAGE EVALUATION



our evaluation, results and recommendations are discussed with parents. Findings and recommendations are shared through a report that is written to be concise and useful for families, physicians and educators.

What if My Child Needs Therapy?

Following the Speech-Language Evaluation, our Speech-Language Pathologist will develop and implement an individualized therapy plan to meet your child's needs. The length and amount of therapy depends on your child's age and the nature of the problem. Every child is different so the rate of progress is highly variable. Combining our expertise with parent partnerships and a variety of clinical and cutting edge technological resources, your child moves toward communication success!

How Do I Get My Child Started?

Call *Speech Plus* to discuss your concerns and determine if a Speech-Language Evaluation is right for your child. Take this step to help your child realize his/her full potential. Success begins with making the proper diagnosis.

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