

Articulation Therapy

Parent's Cheat Sheet

Below is a brief description of how to do articulation therapy at home. If you have any questions, please ask your speech language pathologist.

To learn how to say a sound, your child practice at different "levels."

1. Isolation or Syllable Level:

First things first, your child has to be able to say the desired sound! Syllables or isolation (which means you JUST say the sound with no other sounds) level is usually the first stage since all other speech demands are taken away.

2. Word Level:

The word level means you practice saying a sound within a word. It is important to practice saying the sound in the beginning (initial), middle (medial), and final (position). Why? Our mouth has to coordinate and move muscles differently depending on where the sound falls within a word. Once your child can say his or her sound in words, the phrase/sentence level is next.

3. Phrase/Sentence Level:

The phrase or sentence level means a child practices saying a word, which contains the sound he/she is working on, in a short phrase or a sentence. Children usually start with phrases since they are shorter and work up to sentences. Why? Our brain has to remember how to say the sound while processing all those extra speech and language demands.

4. Conversation:

This is the last step and where home practice is the most crucial. A child MUST say the targeted sound correctly during conversation. This level is the most similar to real life. Short, controlled practices are usually recommended in the beginning of this level. Consult with a speech language pathologist for ideas!