

## SOME USEFUL WEBSITES

[www.letters-and-sounds.com](http://www.letters-and-sounds.com)

There are some free downloadable games, others you have to subscribe to we have not looked at. There are some useful links to some other websites which also have free downloads.

### ONLINE VIDEOS



I'm a little worried about my child's speech.

REF: 3.9 Are you a little worried about your child's speech sounds?

## I just feel a bit worried about my child's speech

If a child is finding speech sounds difficult, a Speech & Language Therapist can support them by identifying the problem and building a program to support your child.

- Some speech issues are easy to focus upon, some are more difficult.
- A generalist Speech & Language Therapist might be fine, but ask if there is a specialist therapist with experience working with hearing-impaired school-aged children. If your child has a cochlear implant, their cochlear implant team might have a specialist Speech & Language Therapist who can give you some advice.

Depending upon the type of speech sounds difficulty your child is experiencing, the ages of 5-7 and 7+ are good times to be intervening, so please do inquire and seek advice.

Aged 5-7+ is a good age to think about speech sounds so if concerned refer to a speech and language therapist.

They can always say wait a while.

something to do

### ACTIVITY: Questionnaire

#### EXPAND

EXPAND the building blocks of Language – My Own Language

EXPAND the building blocks of Language – My Child

It is important to work out where to focus your energies and thoughts with your child. As a parent, fill out both these questionnaires, one about yourself and one about your child.

Use them to think about what you want to focus upon in the next few months. You know your child well and will know what is important at this stage. Trust yourselves. Think about the sequence of what your child needs. For example, they need vocabulary before they can create sentences and the language before we worry about clarity of speech.

The questionnaires will prompt you to think about every part of EXPAND and will direct you to the area of the program you need to be working on.

In a few months time fill out the questionnaires again. Have there been any changes? Identify what you want to continue to keep doing as a family and the next stages you want to focus upon.

**NOTE:**  
Questionnaires located in the back of the folder.

EXPAND



**EXPAND THE BUILDING BLOCKS OF LANGUAGE**

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#### CHECKLIST ACTIVITY: 4) The sound at the beginning of a word

**Picture lotto game.** Pick up a card, don't let the other person see it. Say the word 'cl-own'. Can the other person find who needs the card?

#### Group or sort by initial letter sound

Start with very different sounds e.g. ssss - b. Gradually choose sounds which are more similar sounding.

Find 'b' or 's' pictures or objects. Muddle them in a bag. Take it in turns to take one out and put it in the correct group. Repeat the sound, for your child to listen and compare with their object sound. Say the words already in the group so they can hear the sound in a word context over and over again and hear how different it is to the other sound and its words.

Go on to play a memory game together using the words.

e.g. with objects play the Tray Game (cover them up - which one is missing when you remove the cover). Use two trays, one for each sound group.

e.g. ask for 3, 4, + items in order.

#### CHECKLIST ACTIVITY: 5) Beginning, Middle, Ends of words

These types of activity are often done at school. At home ask about words as they arise and are discussed. Play word association by first letter. Leader randomly shouts 'change' and gives a new letter to continue with. For the ultimate challenge, play word association taking the last letter of the previous word and using it for the first letter of the next word. Go by how the word sounds not how it is spelled.

#### Sounds at beginning of words

*I spy with my little eye something beginning with 'c'*  
*Slap + Clap as above with sound at the beginning.*

#### Linked with writing games: Commercially available

- Scattergories Junior (Hasbro or MB Games). Probably for older children.

Roll a dice to identify the letter a word must begin with, or if making your own game, have a pile of letter cards to choose from. Think of a word for each category beginning with that letter, e.g. girl's name, boy's name, fruit, a sport, a way of travelling, clothing. Write it down on your answer pad. Share your words at the end of the time limit. 1 point for every word. 2 points if no one else had that particular word. The person with the most points wins that round.

#### CHECKLIST ACTIVITY: 6) Segmenting words into sounds Building words up using their sounds (Blending)

This will occur naturally as you are learning to read together.

*Sounds I Spy: I spy a k-e-tt-le. I spy a t-e-l-e-v-i-s-i-o-n*

During games use segmenting and blending as 'clues to the answer'.

- e.g. picture lotto -what do I have?
- e.g. I spy - what can I see?

#### CHECKLIST ACTIVITY: 7) Sounds in words can be analyzed & manipulated

Play these types of games when your child can do the other levels 1-6. Hearing children can do this and it helps with spelling, so give it a try.

Create word riddles for each other as you are in the car or going for a walk etc.  
e.g. take the 's' from slot, what do you make = 'lot'

- Take the t from table
- Take 'l' from owl, what do you make? = ow
- Take the 'c' from cook and change it to 'l' = look

#### ONLINE VIDEOS



Listen to the sounds at the beginning of words during everyday activities.

➤ REF: 3.8 Incorporate listening to speech sounds into everyday life

