



SPEECH AND LANGUAGE ASSESSMENTS

The type of assessment used will vary depending on the symptoms your child presents with. There are two broad categories,

- 1) how we pronounce speech sounds(articulation);
- 2) How we use and understand language(receptive and expressive).

WHAT SYMPTOMS WOULD NEED TO BE INVESTIGATED WITH AN ARTICULATION ASSESSMENT?

If you child is displaying the following:

- difficulty understanding what your child is saying.
- deleting speech sounds in words. Some examples of this might be: “toe” for the word ‘toad’, “nana” for the word ‘banana’, “pane” for the word ‘plane’.
- substituting one sound for a different sound. Some examples of this might be: “gog” for the word ‘dog’, “tat” for the word ‘cat’, “wion” for the word ‘lion’.
- protruding the tongue between the teeth for sounds other than ‘th’. Some examples of this might be: “thun” for the word ‘sun’, “glath” for the word ‘glass’.
- ‘slushy’ speech sounds. This is referred to as a lateral lisp and is common with the sounds ‘s’, ‘z’, ‘sh’, ‘ch’ and ‘j’.

then you should have it checked out by a Speech Pathologist.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE ASSESSMENTS USED?

There are standardised tests and screening tests. There are a number of assessments a speech therapist could use, here are a couple:

- The Articulation Survey: Neil Atkin and John Fisher (1996).



- The Diagnostic Evaluation of Articulation and Phonology (DEAP).
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LANGUAGE ASSESSMENTS

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE SYMPTOMS THAT MY CHILD'S RECEPTIVE LANGUAGE MIGHT NEED INVESTIGATING?

Receptive language is a child's ability to understand and process spoken or written language. If your child is experiencing any of the issues below it may be worth having a language assessment:

- Understanding long or complex sentences.
 - Understanding the meaning and context of words and sentences.
 - They may appear to be not listening or ignoring you most of the time.
 - They may not keep up with peers, either with school work or socially.
 - They may have behavioural problems or be acting up in class.
 - They may be easily distracted or drift off when listening to speech or stories.
 - They may appear to be forgetful. For example, they only complete part of an instruction or remember part of a shopping list.
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SYMPTOMS OF PROBLEMS WITH EXPRESSIVE LANGUAGE?

Expressive language is a child's ability to express themselves and get their meaning across through speaking or writing. The symptoms below would require further investigation.

- Poor sentence or grammatical structure.
- Limited content in their speech.
- Confused meaning and grammar.
- They generally use short, simple sentences.



- Difficulty coming to the point.
- Problems starting or participating in conversations.
- Difficulty recalling or retelling information.
- Difficulty completing oral and written narratives and/or assignments.
- Have trouble finding the right words.

SOME OF THE ASSESSMENTS A SPEECH PATHOLOGIST MIGHT USE INCLUDE:

- The New Reynell Developmental Language Scales (NRDLS)
- The Clinical Evaluation of Language Fundamentals – Preschool 2nd Edition - Australian Standardised Edition (CELF-P2)
- The Clinical Evaluation of Language Fundamentals –5th Edition - Australian Standardised Edition (CELF-5):