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یہ دستاویز دیگر زبانوں اور مطلوبہ شکلوں (فارمیٹ) میں بھی دستیاب ہے

هذه الوثيقة متاحة بلغات اخرى وباشكال غير الكتابة المقروءة وذلك عند الطلب

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## Supporting children with speech sound difficulties - Games and ideas for parents, carers, nurseries and schools

### County Health Partnerships



positive  
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## Introduction

This document has been designed by the Children's Speech and Language Therapy Service as a tool for school staff and parents to use to support children with speech sound difficulties.

The aim of this booklet is to give you some ideas and games to develop your child's speech sounds.

Research has shown that your child's speech sounds can be improved by developing their skills at listening to sounds.

Each child learns at their own pace. Be patient and give lots of encouragement and praise.

## Strategies

- Repeat words back to your child clearly. Do not try to make your child say a sound or word correctly  
E.g. **Child:** "Look...it's a tar"  
**Adult:** "Yes...it's a car"
- Encourage your child to talk more slowly by slowing down your own talking and by pausing.
- See if your child can show you what they mean in a different way e.g. by pointing, acting it out or taking you to it.
- Never let your child talk with a dummy or bottle in their mouth

## • Rhyming

### Books

Read some rhyming books together and see if you can find the rhymes. Your Children's Centre or library will have lots of rhyming books to borrow.



### Songs

Sing nursery rhymes together. Can your child fill in the gap if you wait before saying the last word in the line e.g. 'Twinkle Twinkle Little Star, how I wonder what you.....?' You could also try 'Humpty Dumpty, Incy Wincey Spider or Row Row Row Your Boat.'

### Games

Put some toys in a feely bag. Take it in turns to pull out a toy and think of a word that rhymes with it.

E.g. key...bee  
hat...cat  
dog...frog

- **Treasure Hunt**

Encourage your child to choose one of the sound pictures. Say the sound for them to hear. Encourage your child to find objects around the house that begin with this sound.

You may need to help your child with this activity by saying the name of the objects for them.



- **Clap out the syllables**

Look around the house with your child. Pick an object (e.g. table) Clap out the number of beats / syllables in the word. For example, 'microwave' has three syllables so you would clap three times, 'table' has two and 'door' has one.



## Activities

Good listening skills help children learn to say sounds the correct way.

- **Sound walk**

Take some time and talk to your child about what they can hear in the home, for example the washing machine and telephone. This can also be done when you are out walking, on the bus or in the car.



## • Matching sounds

You'll need some shakers for this game, you can use different musical instruments or fill plastic bottles with objects e.g. pasta, rice or pennies.

Ask your child to turn their back while you shake one of them. Your child then points to the one they heard.

## • Feely bag game

Find some everyday objects and place them in a bag. Your child chooses an object for **you** to name. Help your child to decide what sound they can hear at the beginning of the word.

E.g. 'c/k' = key, cup, car

'f' = fork, photo, fairy

'p' = pig, pen, pan



## • Speech sound scrapbook

Stick each sound picture on to the top of a separate page. Look through magazines and catalogues together to find pictures of things that begin with these different sounds. Name and cut out the pictures. Decide what each word begins with and stick each picture on to the correct page.

The aim of this activity is not for the child to say the word, **but to identify the sound at the beginning.**

They may want to have a go at saying the words which is fine but if they say them incorrectly simply repeat the word back to them correctly.

E.g. when looking at a picture of a fork the child says 'bork', adult repeats 'fork'.

