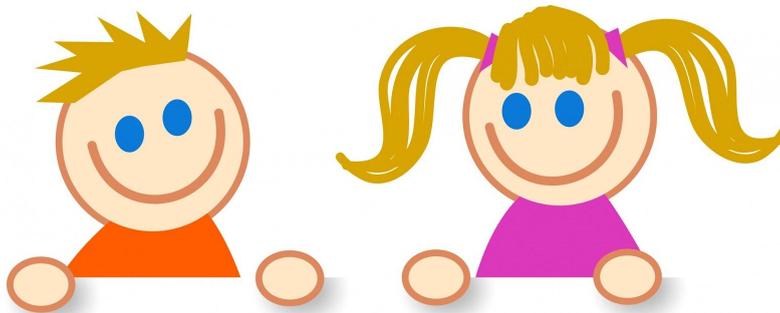


Typical Speech Sound Development

This table provides a **guide** for when most children develop the sounds that we use for speaking in English. If you have concerns regarding your child's speech sound development, please contact a Speech Pathologist.

Age acquired	Speech sounds
3-3;6 years	p b t d h w y m n ng k g f v l y
4-5 years	j ch s, z (without lisp)
5-6 years	sh
6-7 years	r
7 years onwards	th (as in 'thumb') th (as in 'this')





Elimination of Common Speech Error Patterns

These patterns are commonly heard in children's speech as they learn to talk like adults. They usually resolve with time, however if they don't, please contact a Speech Pathologist.

PROCESS	EXAMPLE	GONE BY APPROXIMATELY
Voicing	pig = big	3 years
Final consonant deletion	comb = co	3 years
Stopping	soap = doap fish = dish	3 years, 5 months
Fronting	cat = tat	3 years, 11 months
Weak syllable deletion	elephant = efant banana = nana	3 years, 11 months
Cluster reduction	spoon = poon clean = keen	4 years, 11 months
Deaffrication	chop = top ship = sip	4 years, 11 months
Liquid gliding	rabbit = wabbit light = yight	5 years, 11 months

Unusual or Disordered Speech Patterns

These patterns are not usually heard in typical speech sound development. If you hear any of these in your child's speech, please contact a Speech Pathologist.

PROCESS	DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLE
Initial consonant deletion	Deleting the first sound in a word	fish = ish or dog = og
Medial consonant deletion	Deleting the middle sound in a word	butter = bu__er or ladder = la__er
Glottal insertions	Replacing sounds with those made in the throat	sand = hand
Backing	Front sounds (t, d) are replaced with back sounds (k, g)	tap = cap or dog = gog
Intrusive consonants	A consonant is used excessively, making speech difficult to understand	