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## SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY?

## Speech & Language provides children with the Tools to Grow!

## HOW CAN SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY HELP MY CHILD?

- <u>Speech Language Pathologists (SLP)</u> are highly trained professionals that evaluate and treat children that are having difficulty with all types of language and communication issues.
- In a school setting, speech language pathologists are often part of the special education team and may deliver services to an individual child, small group, or co-teach lessons with the classroom teacher.
- In the schools, Speech Pathologists address the individual needs of students that are experiencing difficulties with understanding language, speaking, and listening. They also recommend and train children in the use of compensatory strategies, make adaptations to the child's environment and equipment, and/or modify the curriculum or activity to promote success.
- Speech Language Pathologists also collaborate with teachers, parents and others to identify and modify barriers that restrict a child's success and model strategies for others to use that will extend the benefits of direct intervention.

## WHY WOULD MY CHILD BE REFERRED TO ST?

- <u>Difficulty Understanding Language</u>: This is known as receptive language. This
  includes understanding what others are saying, following directions, recalling what
  others have said, showing interest in books, attending to classroom lessons, and
  responding to others.
- <u>Difficulty Expressing Self With Words</u>: This is known as expressive language. This
  includes starting conversations or replying to others, using a broad vocabulary
  when speaking, telling a simple story, and using full sentences with proper
  grammar.
- <u>Difficulty With Speech</u>: Having trouble making speech sounds that form into words. This includes being difficulty to understand and/or speaking differently from other children their age. For example, the child may stutter (fluency), have difficulty making speech sounds (articulation), or produce a pattern of speech sound errors (phonology).
- <u>Struggling With Social Communication Skills</u>: Social or pragmatic language is the way we speak to one another. Difficulties can impact development of relationships, participation in social situations, and the ability to have back and forth conversations with others. This includes understanding another person's tone of voice, body language, and emotions.
- <u>Other</u>: This may include a hearing loss, swallowing or feeding disorders, and/or trouble with controlling the movements of the tongue, lips, and cheeks.

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