

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Strategy: Speech Sound Development

Audience: Kindergarten to Grade 6

What:

- Many students have difficulty producing certain speech sounds beyond the expected time of acquisition
- Many sounds continue to develop until the age of 8

How:

- Modelling proper speech sounds in the home instead of correcting. For example, if the child says “wed” for “red”, you can say “Yes! The balloon is rrrrrred.”
- A referral to a speech language pathologist may be required to address any persisting errors
- Some students may benefit from online resources that help shape their speech sound such as the Peachie Speechie website listed below

Materials:

- Peachie Speechie:
<https://peachiespeechie.com/collections/downloadable-materials>
- Mommy Speech Therapy:
<https://mommyspeechtherapy.com/>
- [Articulation: When Should I Worry If My Child is Behind?](#)
- [Creative Articulation Practice at Home](#)
- [Articulation: Making Speech Sounds More Obvious to Your Child](#)

Example: click image to link to the website

SPEECH SOUND DEVELOPMENT BY AGE



Source: <http://www.chm.hdbb.ca/FAV1-000F7538/>
Creating using developmental norms from Poole, Sander, Hema, Fudala, Templin and Wellman.

Inclusive Practices to Consider:

- Some students may have pre-existing conditions that make it difficult for them to move their mouths appropriately for speech
- These tools are not a replacement for a speech language pathologist. Many students will need specific intervention from a SLP

Reference and Links:

Modeling Speech and Language
<https://www.pandaspeechtherapy.com/modeling-speech-language>

Speech Sound Development
<https://www.firstwords.ca/speech-sound-development>