

# SPEECH DEVELOPMENT

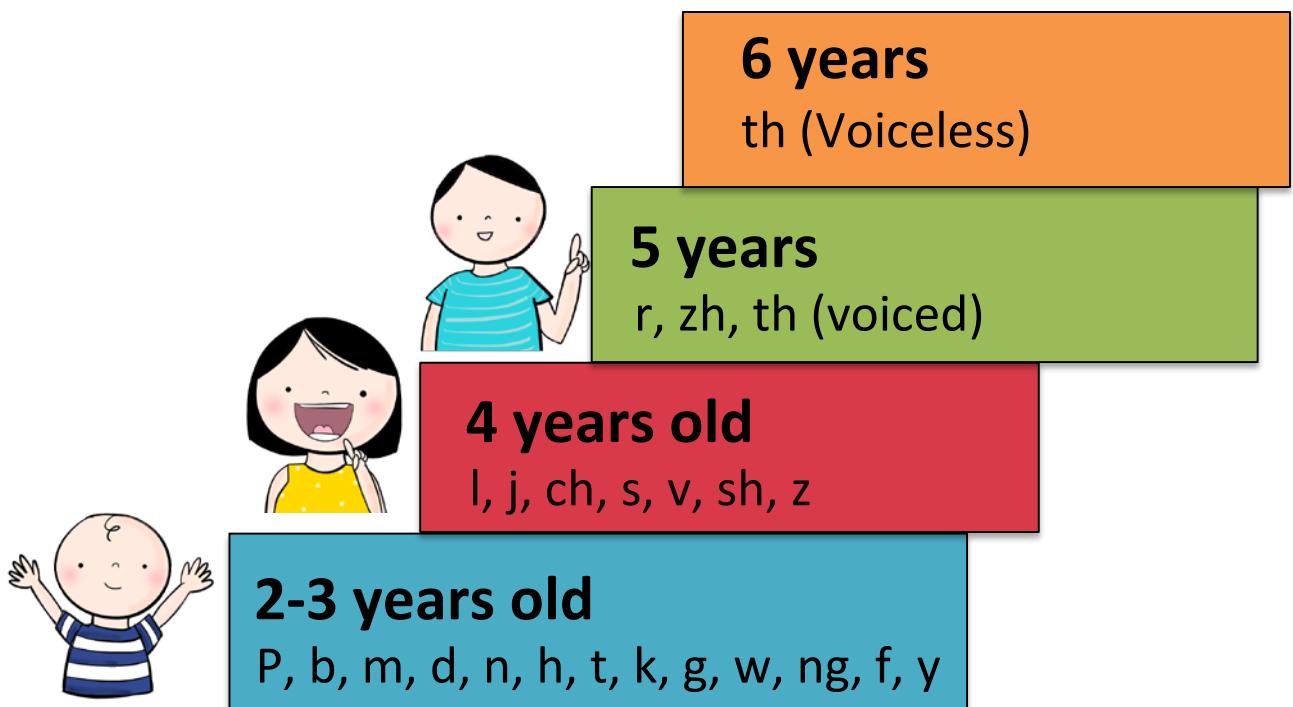


## ARTICULATION

It refers to the movement of the lips, teeth, tongue and palate to produce vowels and consonants.

Based on research, most of the consonants are acquired by the age of 5.

The chart below highlights the average age children learn to pronounce English consonants correctly.



See the next page for tips on helping your child's speech development.

**References:**

- Bowen, C. (2011). Information for Families: Encouraging speech development in children with speech sound disorders. Retrieved from <http://www.speech-language-therapy.com/> on 11 Dec 2019
- McLeod, S., & Crowe, K. (2018). Childrens Consonant Acquisition in 27 Languages: A Cross-Linguistic Review. American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology, 27(4), 1546-1571. doi: 10.1044/2018\_ajslp-17-0100

**Acknowledgment:** We would like to acknowledge and thank Ms Kristen Kiong for her beautiful illustrations



# TIPS TO HELP YOUR CHILD’S SPEECH DEVELOPMENT

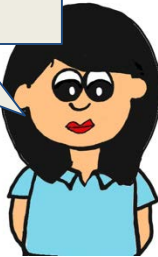


**TIP 1:**

Stress the target sound (e.g. fffff) and encourage your child to look at your mouth so that he/she can imitate how to say the sound correctly.

Look at mummy’s mouth and watch how I say “ffffff”

Bite your bottom lip and blow. Show me your rabbit teeth.



**TIP 2:**

Use specific praises such as “I like the way you said “Fish” with a good ‘f’ sound. This is more powerful than generic comments such as “Good job”.

Leaffff

Wow, I like the way you said “Leaf” with a good “f” in it.








# SPEECH DEVELOPMENT

## PHONOLOGY



It refers to the understanding of sound rules and how sounds go together to form words and meaningful sentences.

When learning how to speak, children tend to make speech errors that follow a consistent pattern. These errors should go away by a certain age.

Phonological processes	Examples	Gone by
Final consonant deletion	House → Hou	2yr
Pre-vocalic voicing Word final devoicing	Pat → bat Pig → Pick	3 yr 
Stopping of f, s v, z	Fish → Pish, See → Tea Van → ban, Zoo → doo	3 yr 5mo
Fronting of k, g, sh Weak syllable deletion Cluster reduction	Car → tar Sheep → sip Banana → nana Spider → pider	3 yr 11mo 
Cluster reduction (Tri-clusters) Deaffrication	Square (skware) → sware Watch → Wash	4 yr 11mo
Gliding of l, r	Light → Yight Yellow → yeyow Rain → wain	5 yr 11mo 

See the next page for tips on helping your child’s speech development.

**References:**  
Dodd, B. and Zhu, Hua and Crosbie, S. and Holm, A. and Ozanne, A. (2002) Diagnostic evaluation of articulation and phonology (DEAP). London: Psychology Corporation. ISBN 9780749114800.

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# TIPS TO HELP YOUR CHILD’S SPEECH DEVELOPMENT

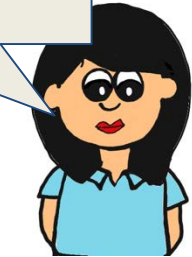


**TIP 1:**  
Highlight the differences in word meaning.

I have pour cars!

Pour cars? Do you mean you have four cars?

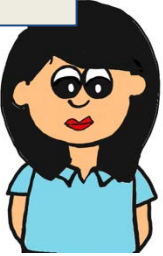
Pour is an action. You pour the water. Four is a number. They are not the same.



**TIP 2:**  
Use specific praises such as “I like the way you said ”Fish” with a good ‘f’ sound. This is more powerful than generic comments such as “Good job”.

Leaffff

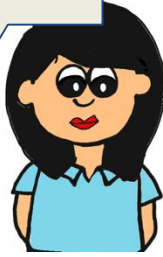
Wow, I like the way you said “Leaf” with a good “f” in it.



**TIP 3:**  
Specific praises can also be used when your child makes an attempt to correct his speech errors.

I see a leap. Oops, I see a leaffff!

Good catching yourself and fixing the f sound!

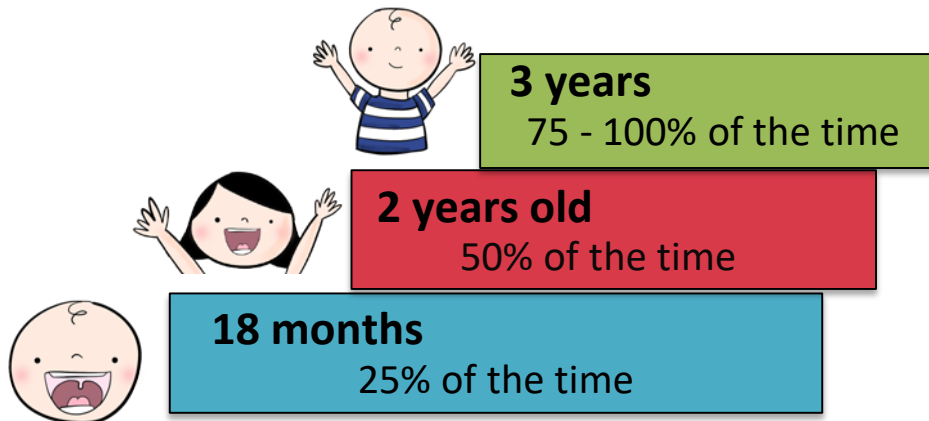




# SPEECH DEVELOPMENT

## SPEECH INTELLIGIBILITY

Parents should understand their child:



### RED FLAGS TO LOOK OUT FOR IN SPEECH DELAYS OR DISORDERS:

- Says p, b, m, h, and w incorrectly in words (1-2 years)
- Says k, g, f, t, d, and n incorrectly in words (2-3 years)
- Produces speech that is unclear, even to familiar people (2-3 years and older)
- If your child is omitting the first sounds of his words
- If your child continues to omit the last sounds of his words after the age of 3
- Difficulty producing vowels e.g ah, ee



**If your child has difficulty producing or imitating sounds that are expected for his/ her age, approach a Speech Therapist for help!**

#### References:

Bowen, C. (2011). Table1: Intelligibility. Retrieved from <http://www.speech-language-therapy.com/> on 11 Dec 2019

Bowen, C. (n.d.). Red Flags for Speech Impairment. [https://www.speech-language-therapy.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=15%3Aflags&catid=11%3Aadmin&Itemid=101](https://www.speech-language-therapy.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15%3Aflags&catid=11%3Aadmin&Itemid=101).

[www.asha.org](http://www.asha.org) - Early identification of language and speech disorders

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