

## WHAT IS A SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST?



A Speech-Language Pathologist is a special kind of teacher who helps children improve their ability to use and understand speech and language so they can be at their very best when they communicate at school or home or with their friends. Speech-language pathologists help you practice your speech sounds, learn new words, or share your ideas with others by leading you through learning activities that help you build your skills.

## WHO NEEDS SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY?

Sometimes, kids find it difficult to express themselves to their teachers, parents and friends. Finding the right words to tell someone a story or explain what you want or need can be frustrating. Other kids might know exactly what they want to say, but their mouth doesn't quite get the words out right. Some words or letters are hard to say and your SLP will help you learn how to pronounce them correctly.

## HOW DO I EXPLAIN MY THERAPY TO MY FRIENDS?

Ask your friends if they practice anything to get better at it. Do they play an instrument like a piano or a violin? Do they play sports like soccer or baseball? All of these activities require practice and are often taught by a coach. The more you practice something, the better you become at doing it. Think of your SLP as your "communication coach" who will help you practice your speech and language skills so that you can participate in classroom conversations with confidence!

### Here are just a few things you can do to practice and improve your skills!

- Pick a recipe and help your parents cook. Read the ingredients out loud and talk through the directions step-by-step
- Create a play and perform it at home
- Read books
- Play board games
- Work on an art project, describe it to someone else
- Play house
- Make a collage out of items with the sound you need to practice. Show off your collage and name each item you included and explain why
- Conduct an interview with an interesting person and summarize key points with someone afterwards



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# Express Yourself!

The best thing I like about speech-language therapy is...

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My two favorite activities in therapy are...

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This is how therapy helps me in my classroom...

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## WHAT IS THE TRUE MEANING OF THESE PHRASES?

I am feeling blue.

It's raining cats and dogs.

I'm on pins and needles.

Break a leg!

I'm all ears.

