

TOPIC: ARTICULATION

DEFINITION: Articulation is the way we PRODUCE the sounds of our language to formulate words. Some sound substitutions are expected for certain ages. It is acceptable and expected that a 2 year old will say "tat" for "cat"; however, it is no longer expected that a child would produce "t" for "c" or "k" once they are four years old.

CHARACTERISTICS:

Children with articulation sound errors will continue to sound immature as they age. This will vary depending on your child's age and what is expected for each age. Some common articulation errors are as follows and the age in which they would be expected to self-remediate.

Target sound	Sound often substituted	Age by which it should self-correct
Hard "c"- sounds like "k" as in "cat" Or "k" as in "kite"	t	3.0 - 3.6 years old
"G" as in "guppy"	d	3.0 - 3.6 years old
"F" as in fire and "V" as in vine	s, sh, t, d, b	F = 3.6 - 4.6 years old V = 5.0 - 6.0 years old
S as in "sat"	Th, f,	5.0 - 6.0 years old
R as in "run"	W	7.0-8.0 years old

RECOMMENDATION FOR SERVICES:

- Have your child screened/ tested by a licensed Speech-Language Pathologist if you think your child is not speaking the sounds that he/ she should for his/ her age.

WHAT TO DO AT HOME:

- Read aloud to your child to expose them to a language rich environment and expose them to vocabulary and proper pronunciation of words
- Using the guide above, once your child turns a certain age, encourage him/ her to watch your mouth as you say certain sounds then have him/ her imitate you just producing the sound by itself, then in a syllable then in a word. For example: child, "the tat is eating" mom/dad, "I see the Cat is eating. Let's try that with the 'K' sound."
 - It might be helpful to place child's hand on your throat/ neck area so he/ she can feel where the "K" is coming from. Then put your hand on his/ her neck and say, "you try... K, K, K..." Encourage your child to use their "good speech sounds" in conversation (particularly if they ARE ABLE to imitate it when you say it).