

Articulation (Speech) Activities for Home

What are some activities that I could do at home to help my child improve his/her speech?

Find and cut out pictures from magazines, newspapers, catalogs, coloring books, etc. Use those pictures to:

- a. Make a picture sound board with the target sound.
- b. Make a speech book & read it to him/her as a model of correct sounds.

Read stories that contain frequent use of the target sound. Tell your child to watch your mouth as you say the target sound.

Attach silly words to the sounds that help your child remember the characteristics of the sound. The /p/ sound could be the “popping” sound, the /m/ sound could be the “humming” sound, etc.

Be a good model. Give your child lots of opportunities to hear the sound produced correctly. It is not always necessary to correct his sounds, but give him/her lots of opportunities to hear the correct sounds.

Use a mirror to help the child see what he is doing with his lips, tongue, etc.

ALWAYS remember:

1. Be Positive! Don't put too much pressure on a child to say things a certain way. The primary focus is to allow them to communicate with you. Don't stop the child in the middle of a sentence to correct the error sounds. Instead, restate what the child said using the correct sounds as a model.
2. Be Patient! If you don't understand what your child is trying to say to you, try having him/her say it again in another way or show you what he wants/needs.
3. Be Honest! Tell the child that you didn't understand and to try again.