

Speech-Language Pathologists (SLP) in the schools work with students who exhibit moderate delays in their speech or language skills that negatively impact their access to or progress in the general education setting. The following are areas a SLP can target during speech-language therapy sessions:

**Receptive Language** refers to what a child can understand when listening to oral language. Receptive language impairments can impact a student's ability to:

- Follow directions
- Understand basic concepts (e.g., on, under, first, last, big, little)
- Answer questions about curricular material

**Expressive Language** refers to what a child can say. Expressive language impairments can impact a student's ability to:

- Use age appropriate sentence length
- Use correct word order
- Use appropriate endings on words (e.g., 'ed', 'ing')
- Use auxiliary verbs (e.g., 'is', 'are')

**Pragmatic Language** refers to how a child uses social language. Pragmatic language impairments can impact a student's ability to:

- Greet others and say farewell appropriately
- Understand jokes and humor
- Have a reciprocal conversation with others
- Talk about topics that may not be of interest

**Articulation/Phonology** refers to how a child says their sounds. Delays in the area of articulation/phonology can impact a student's ability to:

- Speak clearly so that others can understand
- Produce speech sounds correctly

**Voice** refers to a child's vocal quality, pitch, and intensity. Voice disorders can impact a student's ability to:

- Speak loud enough to be heard
- Use a single breath to say a sentence

**Fluency** refers to a child's rate of speech and flow of speech. Fluency disorders (stuttering) can impact a student's ability to:

- Get words/sentences/thoughts out fluently
- Use an appropriate rate of speech

## Additional Resources

### Receptive and Expressive Language:

[Speech and language skills for 4-5 year olds \(English\)](#)

[Speech and language skills for 4-5 year olds \(Spanish\)](#)

[At home activities to build preschoolers speech and language skills](#)

[Your child's communication development: kindergarten through fifth grade](#)

### Pragmatic Language:

[Social communication benchmarks](#)

### Articulation/Phonology:

[Average age of acquisition for English consonants in the United States](#)

[Common phonological processes and expected age of elimination](#)

### Voice:

[Tips to prevent voice problems](#)

### Fluency:

[7 tips for talking with your child who stutters \(English\)](#)

[7 tips for talking with your child who stutters \(Spanish\)](#)

### Miscellaneous:

[Tips for maximizing success of virtual speech-language treatment sessions](#)

[American Speech-Language Hearing Association](#)

[The Stuttering Foundation](#)