

HOW WE HELP: Speech-Language Pathologists in Your Child's School

Children who have communication problems may have **trouble learning or making and keeping friends**. This can negatively affect their academic and social success. Speech-language pathologists in schools help students with:



Voice

Your child may sound hoarse or lose their voice. They may sound like they talk through their nose, called nasality. Their voice may be too loud or too soft. Voice problems can make it hard to talk in class or with friends.

Speech sounds

Your child may have trouble saying sounds. They may not speak clearly and be hard to understand.

Listening, speaking, reading, and writing

Your child may have trouble understanding what they hear. They may not follow directions or answer questions well. It may be hard for them to tell others about their thoughts. They may not say the correct words or say only short sentences. Listening and speaking problems can also make reading and writing harder.

Stuttering

Your child may have trouble speaking smoothly. They may repeat sounds or words or have long pauses when they talk. Stuttering can make it hard to answer questions or give speeches in class. It can also make it hard to talk to friends.



Social communication

Your child may have trouble getting along with other children. They may not make friends easily. They may not understand what others think or how they feel.



Feeding and swallowing

Feeding and swallowing problems can make it hard for your child to eat and drink enough during the day. This can make learning and enjoying social times, like lunch or snack, hard for your child.



Augmentative and alternative communication

Children may need or choose to use other ways to communicate besides talking. These include no- or low- and high-tech options such as pointing or gesturing, picture boards, and speech-generating devices.

Cognitive communication skills

These are the thinking skills your child needs to remember, solve problems, and use their imagination. Learning disabilities and brain injuries may cause these problems.



ASHA

American
Speech-Language-Hearing
Association

Learn more about speech-language pathologists in schools at www.asha.org/public.