

South Shore Speech

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Partners in Communication

UNDERSTANDING SPEECH AND LANGUAGE DISORDERS

I. Preconversational Skills

1. Imitation - nonverbal, verbal
2. Play - object exploration, symbolic, joint attention
3. Interaction - eye contact, turn taking through play
4. Communicative intent – requesting, rejecting, commenting, answering

II. Receptive Language Skills

1. Vocabulary - understanding of nouns, verbs, adjectives, spatial terms, time concepts, multiple meaning
2. Auditory Memory - ability to take in what is heard and manipulate the info, multiple step directions
3. Comprehension for Questions - yes/no, either/or, 'who,' 'what,' 'where,' 'when,' 'why'
4. Grammatical Understanding – verb tense, pronouns, auxiliaries, negation

III. Expressive Language Skills

1. Length of Utterance - number of words put together
2. Morphology - ing, in and on, auxiliaries, articles, and plural, possessive and verb tense markers
3. Syntax - grammatical skills, pronouns, word order for sentences, questions
4. Word Retrieval - naming skills, speed and accuracy, overuse of nonspecific words in conversation
5. Formulation - fluency, sequencing ideas logically, story telling

IV. Pragmatic Skills

1. Conversation Topic- starting, maintaining, switching, ending
2. Body Language- eye contact, facial expressions, body-space parameters, gestures
3. Perspective Taking- recognizing other's feelings, interests and prior knowledge, repair strategies
4. Clarifications- recognizing only partial info has been given, asking questions, asking for help, IDK
5. Social Language- humor/irony/sarcasm, often based on multiple meanings

V. Articulation

1. Verbal Apraxia/Dyspraxia-Motor Planning Disorder. Errors increase as the length of word/utterance increases
2. Phonological/Articulation Disorder
3. Tongue Thrust
5. Effect on Intelligibility and Length of Utterance