

September

Some children require extra support for speech and language skills. Help with Speech means they are having problems **correctly producing sounds**. Children who have **difficulty formulating sentences, using grammar correctly, following directions, or understand what is being said to them** may need support with their language skills. If children need extra support- it does not mean they are "slow". Some children require just a little extra support in certain areas! Be sensitive and supportive with parents. Ensure that their child will not be labeled but rather supported to ensure that their social and academic skills progress.

RED FLAGS TO LOOK FOR

- ☹ Incorrect use of pronouns and verb tenses.
- ☹ Poor memory skills.
- ☹ Troubles with reading comprehension.
- ☹ Difficulty following classroom directions.



Tidbits for Teachers

Students learn best when using more than one method of learning. When teaching try including:

- WRITTEN**- practice writing words and sentences.
- ORAL**- have them practice speaking about new concepts with peers and groups.
- VISUAL**- use pictures and visuals as much as possible- go beyond your smart board.
- TACTILE**- students need to touch "it." Have them practice using manipulatives, tapping out syllables, etc. Include Play-doh and other hands on activities as much as you can.

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I am Mindy Olson-Pizzey, Speech Language Consultant. Creating Communicators is providing speech and language support at your school. My role as speech consultant include:

- screening K4 & K5 students (if your school has chosen this service.
- screening any students identified as having a speech and language concern by parents or teachers. Referrals can be made by any teacher or parent.
- providing on-going treatment (along with the Educational Assistant at your school- if there is one available.) I will be training your aide and helping them with treatment, ideas and resources to help carry out treatment while I am not at the school. Treatment can be face to face or online (depending on the needs of your school and students.
- forwarding any students information to an SLP to be formally assessed. Usually assessments only happen once a year (in May or early Fall- contact me for more information). I have several Speech Language Pathologist who work for me at Creating Communicators.
- A resource for teachers. I can help teachers with resources, classroom activities, and other information on students. If time allows, I can come into classrooms and provide language activities to small groups or the entire classroom.
- OT- I have an Occupational Therapist who works with me. Contact me for information on OT services.

If you have questions call me at 780 805-6645 or email me mindyopcc@gmail.com.