

WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN!

Speech and Language Services

Having a strong foundation for speech and language is important and influences your life everyday in ways you might not even notice! Our team at Northern Lights Public Schools consists of Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs) and Speech Language Assistants (SLPAs) through a combination of NLPS employees and contractors.

Who are SLP's?

SLP's are experts in communication. They assess, plan and implement treatment, and provide consultation to support the following communication needs:

- Speech Sounds
- Language
- Social Communication
- Literacy
- Fluency
- Voice
- Feeding and Swallowing



Articulation vs. Language

Articulation/speech refers to how we pronounce sounds. For example if a child uses a "t" instead of a "k".



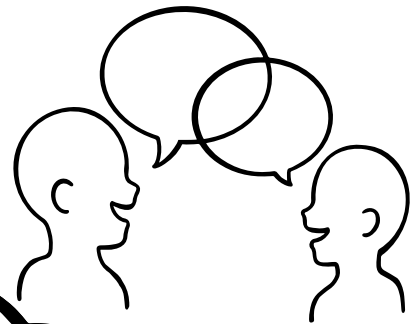
Language refers to our understanding and use of words as well as how we use them to communicate our wants and needs.

In-school therapy services focus on supporting language-based communication needs including the following:

- Understanding and following directions
- Grammar
- Listening comprehension
- Categorization and associations
- Building vocabulary
- Describing
- Formulating sentences
- Understanding questions
- Narratives and story comprehension
- Phonological awareness
- Phonological processes

Contact Info

If you have concerns about your child's expressive or receptive language, please reach out to your teacher.



Alberta Health Services can address concerns in the following areas: articulation, feeding, swallowing, voice, resonance, or any acute changes in function



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You Can Help!

Here are some easy things you can do at home to help with your child's speech and language development

Build Your Child's Vocabulary

- Talk to your child throughout the day and describe meaningful things
- Act out new words and use pictures or objects to teach new vocabulary
- Repeat! Children need to hear a new word many times before they will understand and use it
- Relate new vocabulary to your child's personal experiences
- Emphasize words that might be new to your child

TRY THIS!

• Play I Spy



- Look for things that are tall, squishy, bumpy, cold, huge, speedy, etc

• Picture or Object Sorting

- Separate things into categories or groups such as: animals, fruits, clothing, etc.



Practice Making Sounds Together

- Encourage your child to watch how you make a sound
- Hold objects close to your face to encourage your child to watch your mouth
- Repeat sound errors back using a slower, emphasized, correct production

TRY THIS!

• Be a Sound Detective!

- Search for as many items as you can that have a target sound in them
- Example: look for all items in the kitchen that have a "p" sound



Shared Book Reading



- Talk about the title and make predictions about what the story is about before reading the book
- Point out new vocabulary and give simple definitions
- Don't just read the words! Talk about the pictures, describe the characters, ask questions, and make personal connections
- Encourage your child to retell the story in their own words

TRY THIS!

- Increase opportunities for story retell and practicing vocabulary from the story throughout the day
 - Make a craft related to the story
 - Draw a picture about the story
 - Sing songs
 - Act out the story

