Child Development Programs
TOGETHER TOWARDS TOMORROW

Oak Valley Health

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Articulation Developmental Norms

Child's Current Age	Sounds That Should Be Developed	Processes/Patterns That Should No Longer Be Used	Age When Treatment Is Indicated
Up to 3 years	p, b, m, t, d, n, h, w, vowels	• Final consonant deletion • Initial consonant deletion • Medial consonant deletion • Assimilation (gog/dog)	**3 years**
3 - 3 ½ years	k, g, ing, f, s, z, y, s-blends	• Voicing (p,k,t) • Fronting (k/g/ing) • Stopping (f,s,z) • Cluster Reduction (s-blends)	**3 1/2 years**
3 ½ - 4 years	sh*, l	• *Stridency deletion (t/sh) • Gliding (w/l or y/l)	**4 years**
4 - 5 years	l-blends, ch, j	• Cluster reduction (l-blends) • Deaffrication (t/ch, d/j)	**5 years**
Over 5 years	r, r-blends, th, v, sh*	• Frontal lisp (th/s, th/z) • Lateral lisp (slushy/noise s,z) • */s/ for /sh/	**Your child has time to master these sounds beyond their preschool years.**

- Sounds are not worked on in our program before the "age when treatment is indicated" column.
- If your child has only one sound in error, a home program may be provided and your child may be discharged from our program.

* Please note that different error patterns may be present on /sh/ during the preschool years and that t/sh should be resolved by approximately 4 years of age, while s/sh or th/sh is considered developmentally appropriate for this age group.