

SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

WHAT WILL SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY DO FOR MY CHILD?

The Speech-Language Pathologist may evaluate your child's ability to:

- Tell you what his/her wants and needs are
- Speak in a manner that others can understand (pronunciation, fluency and expression of language)
- Understand what others say and follows directions
- Play and socialize with others
- Think, pay attention, listen
- Eat and swallow a variety of foods, and get enough nutrition

Please be prepared at the time of your child's appointment to share specific concerns. Keep in mind the activities your child participates in on a daily basis and the places those activities occur, as you think about the following questions:

- What is your main concern?
- What kinds of things do you want your child to communicate about? ("I want him to be able to tell me he wants a drink of juice instead of falling on the floor and crying")
- Where do you want them to be able to communicate? ("I want him to start communicating at home.")
- Whom do they need to communicate with? ("It is most important to me for him to be able to tell his dad what he wants. I can understand his wants and needs fairly well, but he and his dad get very frustrated when they can't communicate.")
- What aspects of your home life will affect therapy, such as having time to attend therapy sessions, time to work with your child on home activities, financial resources?

Think about these questions before coming to your child's appointment. Your answers will help us to focus on your child's most pressing concerns. During the evaluation you and the therapist will decide if therapy is needed and what you want your child to accomplish.

If your child sees another therapist, please bring your child's goals and treatment plan to the evaluation session.

If therapy is needed, the SLP will talk with you about our approach to therapy and suggest a plan of care based on our models of therapy (See enclosed Models of Therapy brochure). This plan will include how often and for how long therapy might be needed. We will also discuss what you can expect from us and what is expected of you and your child.

We look forward to meeting you and your child and helping you improve your child's quality of life.