

Speech and Language Therapy Activities

Speech Sounds

Modelling

Your child may take three or four years to learn to say the whole range of sounds used in speech. They may not always say a word exactly as you say it e.g. they may miss out part of a word or say a wrong sound.

If you tell them to say the word properly, they won't always be able to change how they say it. Instead you should use a **'modelling' technique**.

How can you help?

Show your child that you've understood what they meant, and then say the word clearly for them:

e.g. child says: tup (for cup)

You say: Yes, that's a **cup**.

Don't ask your child to repeat what you said, but give them a bit of time in case they want to try the word again. If they don't say anything, you can say the sentence again and make it longer.

e.g. child says: tup (for cup)

You say: yes, that's a **cup**.

Pause

You say: That's **teddy's cup**

This modelling technique can also be used to encourage your child to produce longer sentences.

e.g. child says: Mummy dot

You say: yes, Mummy's sock

Pause

You say: Mummy's sock is dirty