

# – Speech Articulation Tips & Tricks

# Quick Guide To Speech Sound Disorders

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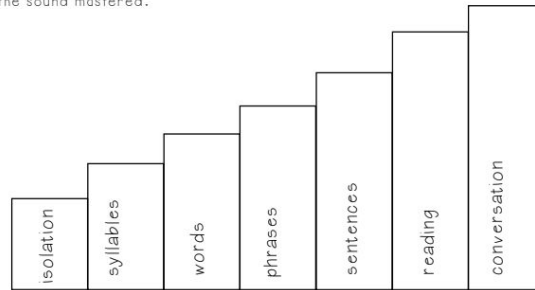


Articulation  
Speech sound errors (substitutions or distortions) on specific sounds. Most common for elementary-aged students.

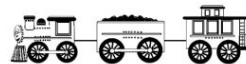
Phonology  
Sound error patterns that children use to simplify speech. Most common for preschool-aged students.

Apraxia  
Speech sound errors caused by neurological motor planning disorder. Less common disorder.

Speech sounds are taught in a specific hierarchy based on difficulty. First, sounds are taught in isolation, then words, and phrases. The highest level of production is spontaneous conversation. Once a student can do this, we consider their carryover of the sound mastered.



When we target speech sounds, we need to work on the sounds in the beginning, middle, and end of words. Sometimes we use a visual like three blocks on the table or a train to understand the different parts of a word.



# Table Of Contents

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## Articulators (Part of Mouth)

B

CH

D

F

G

H

J

K

L

L-Blends

M

N

P

R

R-Blends

S

S-Blends

SH

T

TH

V

W

Z

# In The Therapy Room...

## — Teaching The Sound

- Can they hear the difference between minimal pairs (led vs wed, red vs wed, etc.)
- Are they stimuable/can they imitate?
- Teaching the sound, talk about placement of the articulators
- Articulation drill of the sound in various phonemic and word contexts
- Sound in phrases and sentences
- Emerging self-correction and occasional use in conversation

# Beyond The Therapy Room....

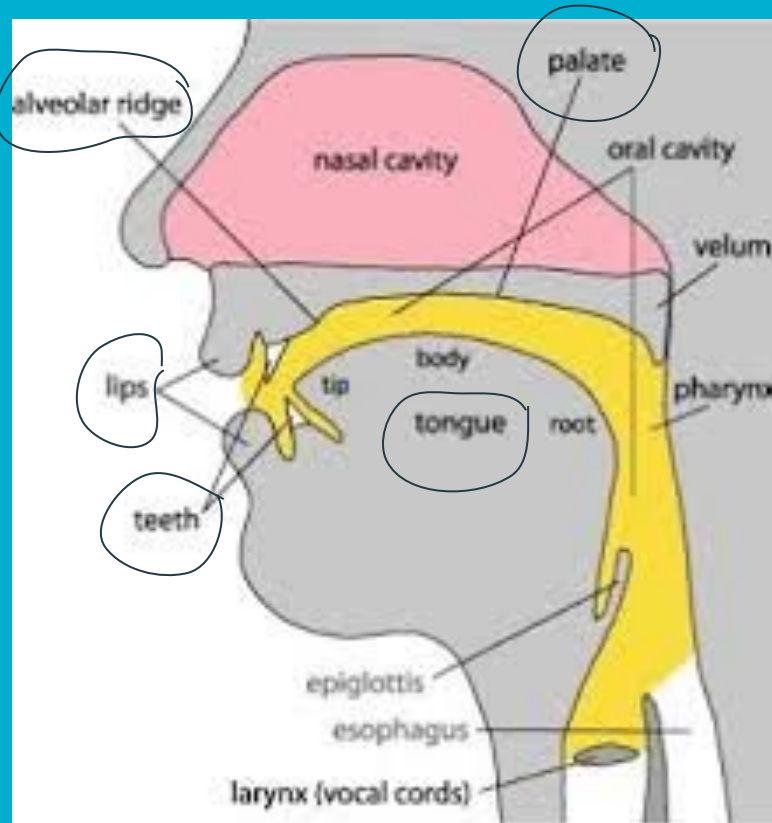
## Teacher Role and Importance Of Generalization

- Model correct speech - repeat the word with targeted sound the correct way, emphasizing the targeted sound
- Depending on the student, encourage them to repeat
- Consistent cues if imitation is incorrect

- **Model Clear Articulation:** The more the student hears a sound correctly, the more likely they'll say it correctly.
- **Focus On Speech Sounds:** Emphasize the sound a letter makes rather than the letter itself. For example, remind a student to say the “shh” sound, rather than the “s” “h” sound.
- **Give Specific Feedback:** Give students specific feedback for saying sounds correctly. Avoid criticizing a student for saying a sound incorrectly in front of other students.

- **Ask For Repetition:** Asking a student to repeat teaches them that speaking clearly is important without putting them on the spot to say a specific sound correctly. Honor the communication even if articulation is incorrect.
- **Highlight Target Sounds:** Underline or highlight the target sound in advance for read aloud or homework activities to reinforce the student's awareness of the sound in context. SLP can help with this during intervention or at another time!

# We make sounds with our “articulators”

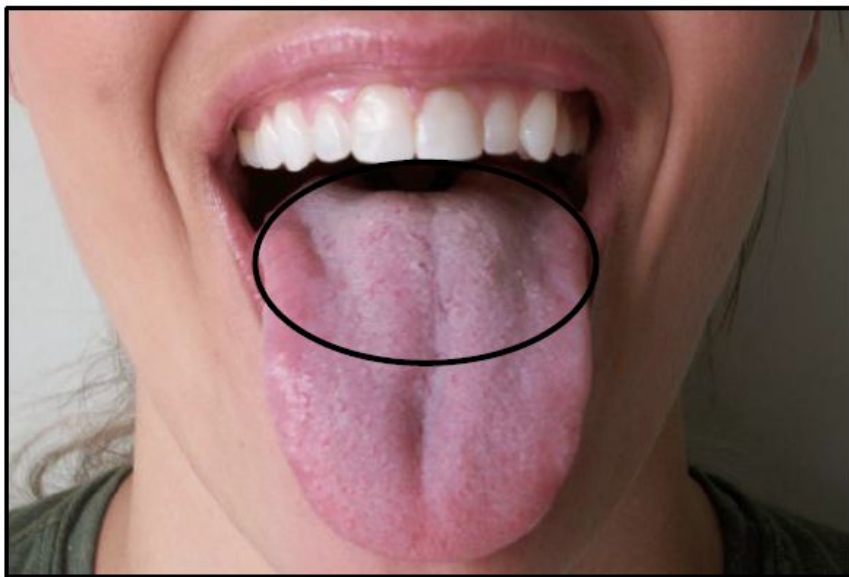






## Front-Tongue

The front of your tongue is used to make “T”, “D”, “S”, “Z”, “Y”, “L”, “Ch”, “J”, “SH”, “th”, “TH” and “ZH” (as in measure).



## Back-Tongue

The back of your tongue is used to make “K”, “G”, and “R”.



## Nose

Air flows through your nose to make “**N**”, “**M**”, and “**NG**” (as in “sing”).

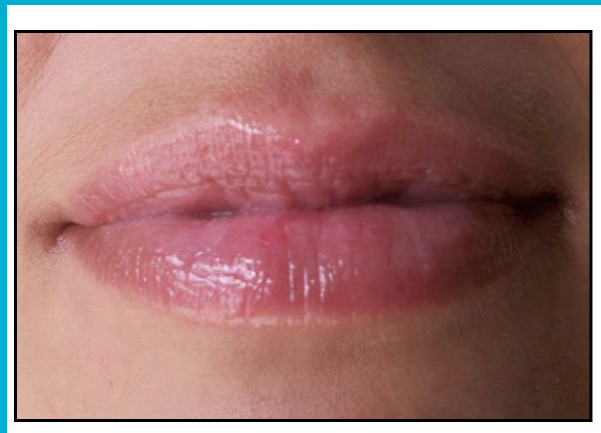
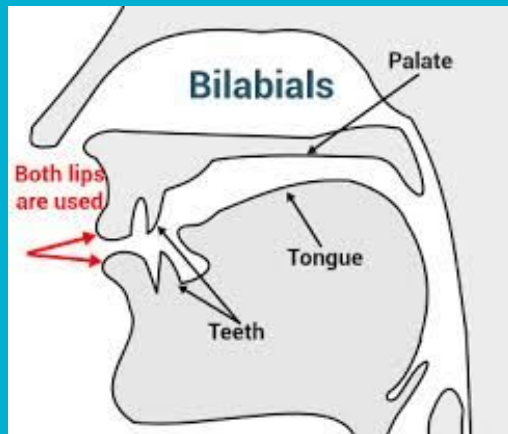


## Vocal Cords

Your vocal cords vibrate to make ALL vowels and *voiced* sounds like “**B**”, “**D**”, “**G**”, “**Z**”, etc. They don’t vibrate for *voiceless* sounds like “**P**”, “**T**”, “**K**”, “**S**”, etc.

# LIPS

—  
Put your lips  
together to make  
*/p/*, */b/*, */m/*, */w/*



# P: Popping Sound

# B: Bouncing Sound



# P: Practice List and Tongue Twisters

---

Penny

Copy

Flip

Paul, please pause for an applause.

Pat

Apple

Cup

Past

Teapot

Hop

Pick the pears and plums from the top.

Poke

Dipping

Tap

Pig

Upset

Stop

The teapot pours into the cup.

Pen

Zipper

Top

# B: Practice List and Tongue Twisters

---

Bag

Cowboy

Job

Billy's **b**ig **b**ug is **b**eautiful.

Beam

Tuba

Cab

Bee

Fastball

Lab

The **b**aby **b**ounced a **b**asket**b**all.

Boy

Ruby

Rib

Bus

Public

Web

**B**ob took a **b**ath in the **t**ub.

Bat

Cabin

Tub



# M: Humming Sound



# Word Lists

Mat

Animal

Arm

Mall

Family

Calm

Move

Army

Jam

Mad

Summer

Team

Make

Hammer

Swim

My

Tomato

Gum

# Tongue Twisters

Mom mashed mushrooms.

Mighty Mike makes marvelous music.

Many mummies and monsters munch on muffins.

W



# Word Lists

Wait

Flower

What

Power

Why

Towel

Wall

Seaweed

Win

Kiwi

Week

Highway

# Tongue Twisters

Wally wiggles his white wig.

Warm winds whipped the waves.

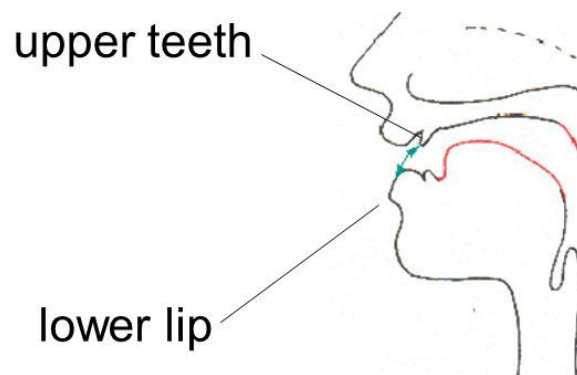
Walter walked in the wet woods.

# LIPS & TEETH

F

V

## Labiodental consonants



**f** *fine*   **v** *vine*

# F: Hose Sound

# V: Vacuum Sound





# F: Practice List and Tongue Twisters

---

Fish                  Muffin                  Half                  The fox ate fish waffles.

Fall                  Before                  Chef

Fit                  Coffee                  Roof                  The flying fish flies through the sunroof.

Food                  Before                  Myself

Fuss                  Trophy                  Stuff

Feet                  Gift                  Golf                  The fifth fireman put out the fire.

# V: Practice List and Tongue Twisters

---

Video

Never

Move

Vinny's five friends love Cleveland.

Vet

Gravy

Five

Van

Driver

Above

The view at the divein was groovy.

Voice

Navy

Sleeve

Vent

Clover

Cave

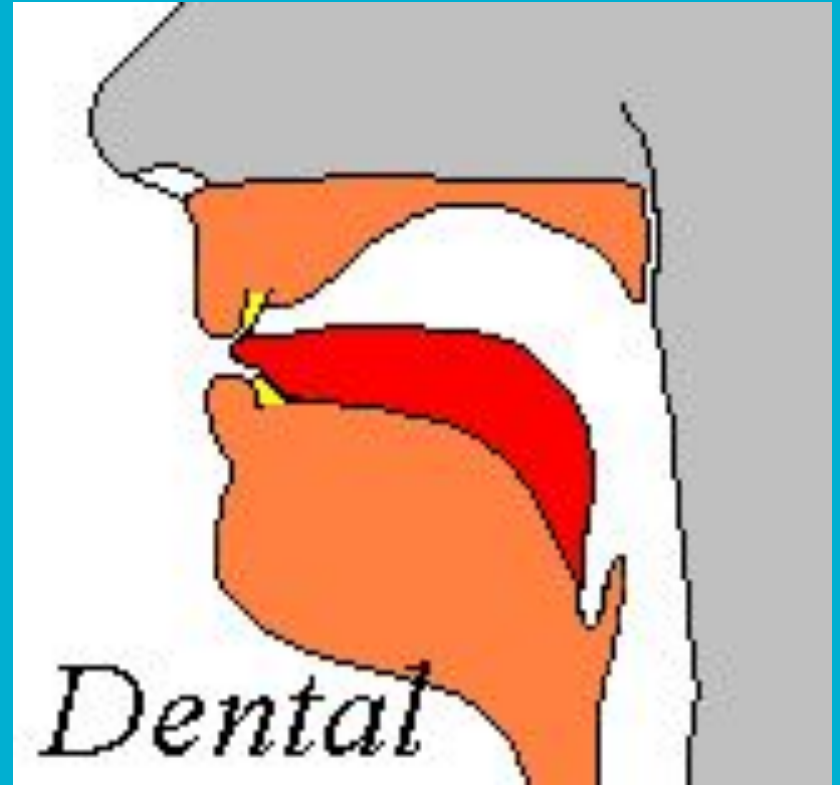
Victor vowed to never leave the driveway.

Very

Lava

Stove

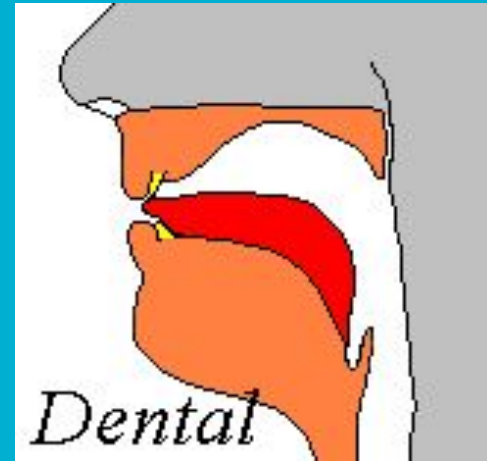
# TEETH & TONGUE



# TH: Tongue Sandwich Sound



“Th” **lightly** bite your tongue and blow



# How to make “th” and “th” sounds

## Quite (voiceless “th”)

- Place the very tip of your tongue lightly between your teeth and blow air through

## Loud (voiced “th”)

- Place the very tip of your tongue lightly between your teeth and blow air through
- Add noise/turn on voice/make vocal cords vibrate



Think / Fink  
Three/Free  
Thought / Fought



Then / Venn  
That / Vat  
Than / Van

Can you hear the difference? “Th” or “F”? “Th” or “V”

# “th” (quiet)



Theme

Thirty

Wealthy

Earthy

Bath

With

# “th” (loud)

Them

Those

Brother

Feather

Bathe

Smooth

# Th Tongue Twisters

---

Theo did math while in  
the bath.

They went to the  
theater on Thursday.

The thief stole three  
bins of clothing.

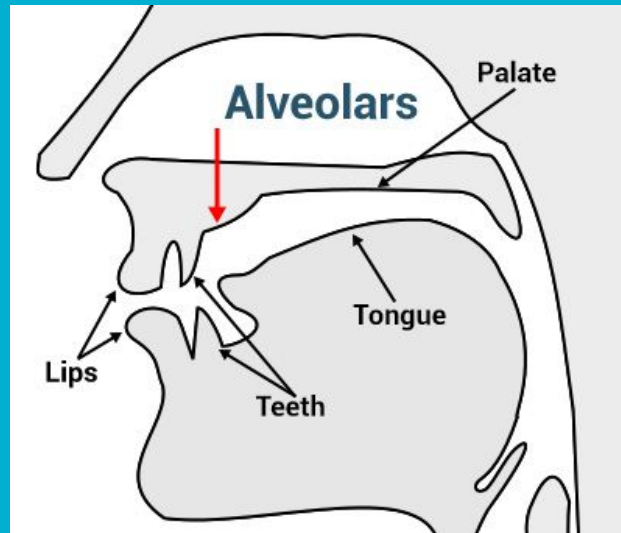


# TONGUE & ALVEOLAR RIDGE

---

T, D, N, S, Z, L

- Close your teeth to make /s/ and /z/
- Your ridge is right behind your two front teeth. It's the right spot for /s/, /z/, /l/. /t/, /d/, and /n/



# T: Tick Tock Sound

# D: Drum Sound



# T: Practice List and Tongue Twisters

---

Tea            After            Cut            Scottt sees the doctor at the hospital.

Taco           Potato           Pit

Tire           Until           Ant

Toss           Winter           Root           Tedd puts mittens on in the winter.

Towel           Fourteen           Rut

Two           Mitten           Feet           Turkey ate twelve tacos.

# D: Practice List and Tongue Twisters

---

Dog                  Reduce                  Sad                  **D**addy hid under the bed.

Drill                  Admit                  Loud

Day                  Studio                  Good                  The reading is due Monday.

Desk                  Today                  Hid

Duck                  Reading                  Bid                  **D**an planted the seed in the mud.

Deep                  Order                  Red

# N: Nose Sound



# Word Lists

Knee

Inch

Run

Now

Ant

Spoon

Novel

Tiny

Bin

Nap

Finish

Ten

Nut

Winner

Mean

Night

Money

Tune

# Tongue Twisters

Nick knocked down the mailman.

Ten ninjas ran in the night.

The winner won a new brown van.

# L: Singing Sound

---



“L” - place the tip of your tongue just behind your front teeth; lips stretch a little



L

Lay

Let

Lip

Lug

Loop

Light

Yellow

Feeling

Melted

Fall

Sale

Mole

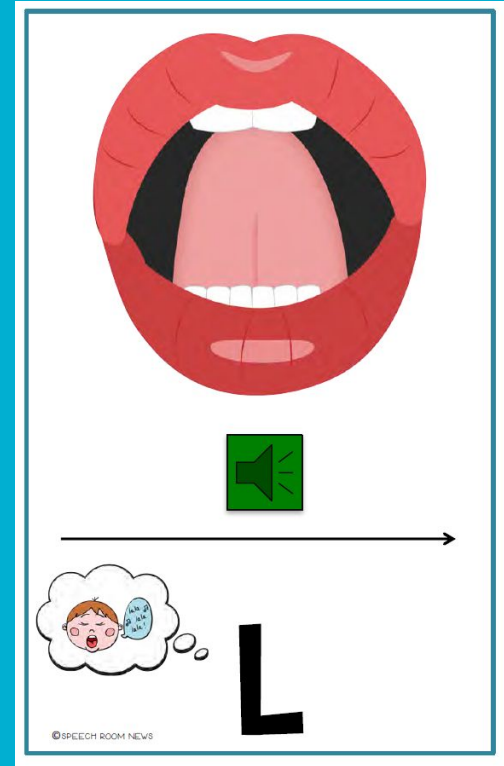
Blue

Flight

Cloud

Glide

Slip



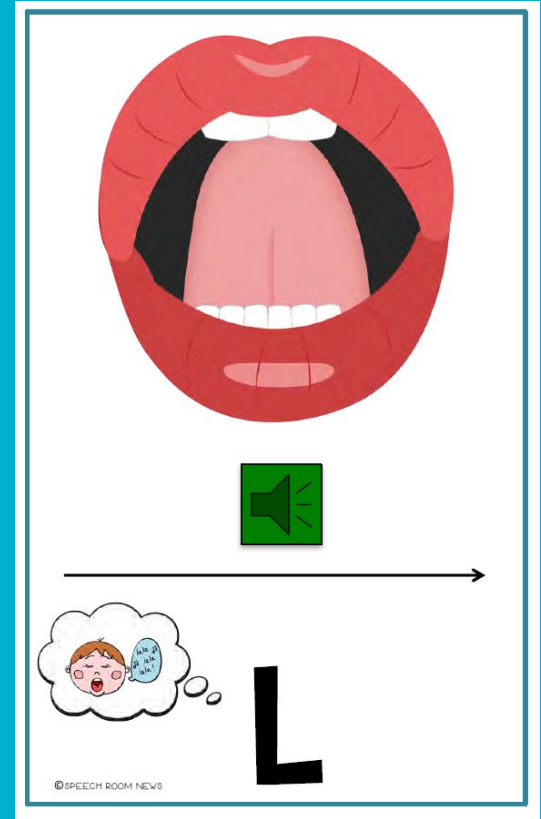
## — L Tongue Twisters

Larry sent the lady a letter.

Lily likes to eat lollipops.

Lisa laughed loudly.

Lovely lemon-lime slices.



# L-Blend Word Lists

Black

Clop

Glad

Blue

Cliff

Glee

Blink

Clap

Glitter

Blow

Clock

Gloom

Blurt

Clue

Glue

# L-Blend Word Lists

Play

Slap

Glad

Plow

Sleep

Glee

Plug

Slid

Glitter

Plot

Sled

Gloom

Plum

Slug

Glue

# S: Snake Sound

---



# Z: Buzzing Sound



# S: Snake Sound and Z: Buzzing Sound

---

- Place tip of your tongue just behind the front teeth, very close to the roof of the mouth but not touching it.
- The blade/fatty part of the tongue is raised almost touching the roof of the mouth, leaving a passage for air down the middle of the tongue.
- Sides of the tongue should also rest against the side of your teeth.
- Lips should be parted slightly with the corners drawn up, like a smile.
- The /s/ sound is unvoiced (no vibration). The /z/ sounds is voiced (vibration).

## **/s/ is like /t/**

---

- Make 3 /t/ sounds in row
- Make a 4th /t/ sound but try to make it longer by pushing air over tongue through 2 front teeth
- By **POPPING** your /t/ and letting the air flow, you're making an /s/

## ***/z/ is like /d/***

---

- Make 3 /d/ sounds in row
- Make a 4th /d/ sound but try to make it longer by pushing air over tongue through 2 front teeth
- By **POPPING** your /d/ and letting the air flow, you're making a /z/



**/s/**

Say

Yes

See

Class

Stay

Classy

Steep

Mice

Sky

Misty

Six

Nice

# S-Blend Word Lists

Scar

Slap

Small

Scoop

Sleep

Smell

Ski

Slid

Smile

Skunk

Sled

Smock

Sky

Slug

Smudge

# S-Blend Word Lists

Snap

Spa

Star

Sneeze

Speak

Steem

Sip

Spice

Stick

Snore

Spin

Stop

Snow

Spoon

Stuck

Snug

# S-Blend Word Lists

Swan

Sweet

Swim

Swollen

Swip

**/z/**

—

Zip

Zap

Zone

Zelda

Doze

Maze

Fuzzy

Nose

Ways

Gizmo

# Tongue Twisters

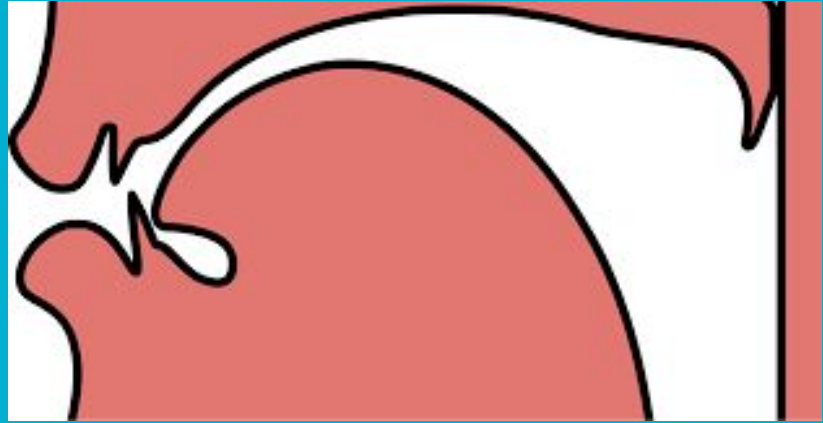
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Sam said he is jealous because he has no salad.

Six sausages slowly sizzled in the sun.

Several students sat in the sunny seats on the bus.

# TONGUE & PALATE

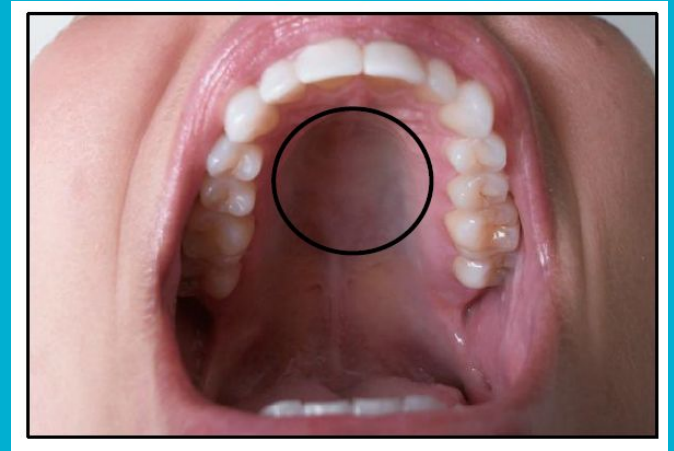


SH

J

CH

The front-roof is the right spot for “ch”, “j”, “sh”,



# CH: Choo Choo Sound



- Round your lips and keep teeth together
- Make the air explode out like a chomping sound
- Use the middle of your tongue to make the sound back behind the ridge
- Voice is off



# /ch/

Chew

kitchen

patch

Chip

nachos

lunch

Chase

picture

touch

Child

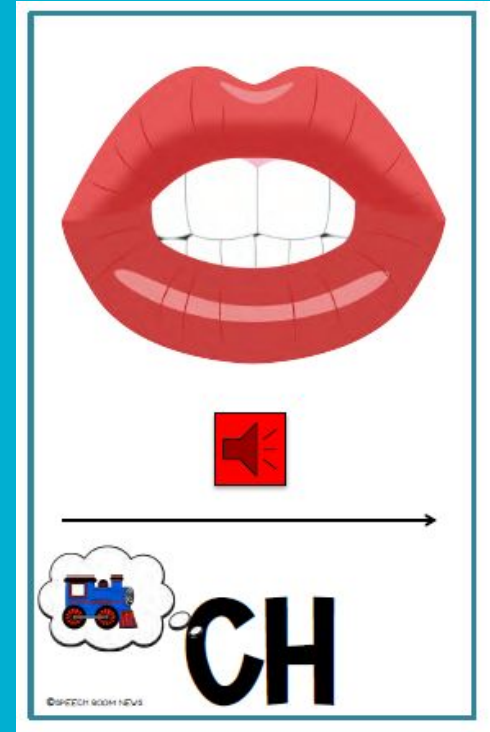
teacher

pinch

Chop

nature

couch

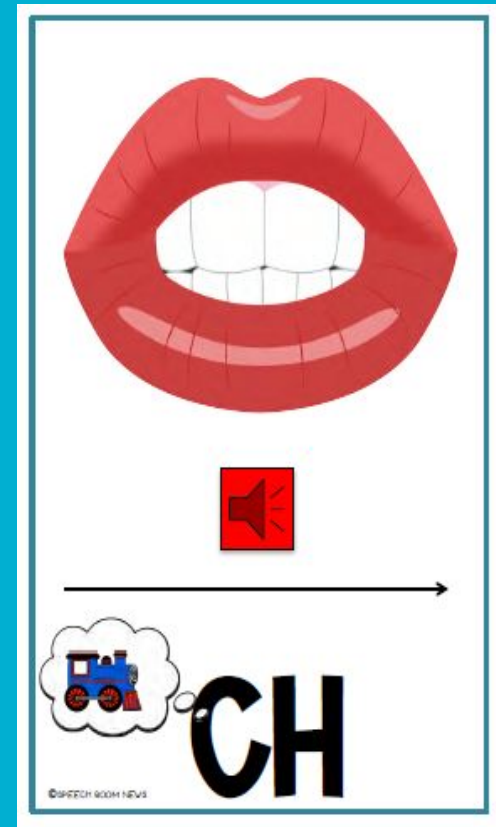


# Ch Tongue twisters

I want chocolate chip cookies.

I put ketchup on my french fries.

Change the channel before you sit  
in the chair.



# SH: Quiet Sound



- Tongue pushed up at the top of your mouth behind the ridge with a little tunnel in the middle for your air
- Close teeth together - hide your tongue
- Voice is off - use a lot of air

/sh/

Ship

bushes

smash

Shape

lotion

push

Shop

tissue

bush

Shed

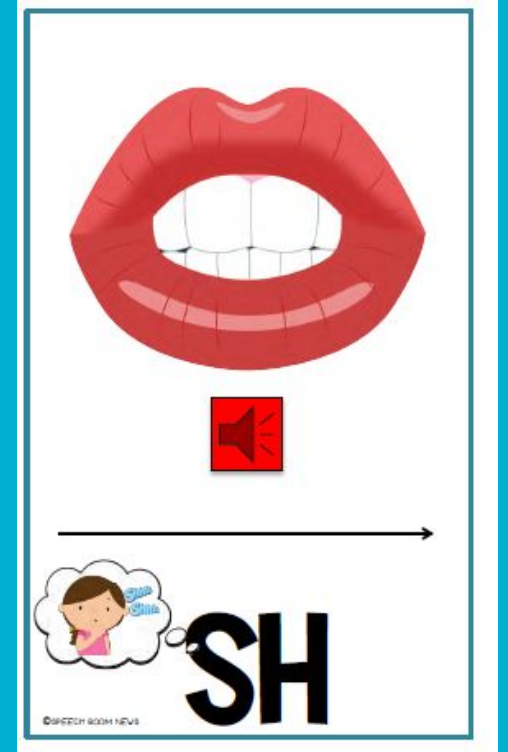
ocean

wash

Should

dishes

fish



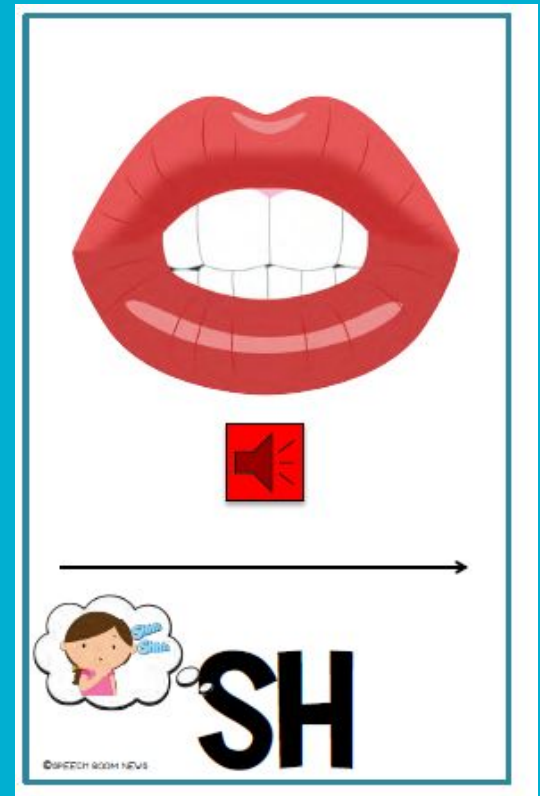
# sh tongue twisters

Share your shiny nail polish.

The shovel was left in the shed.

I put the shirt in the washing machine.

Shannon put on her shirt and shoes.



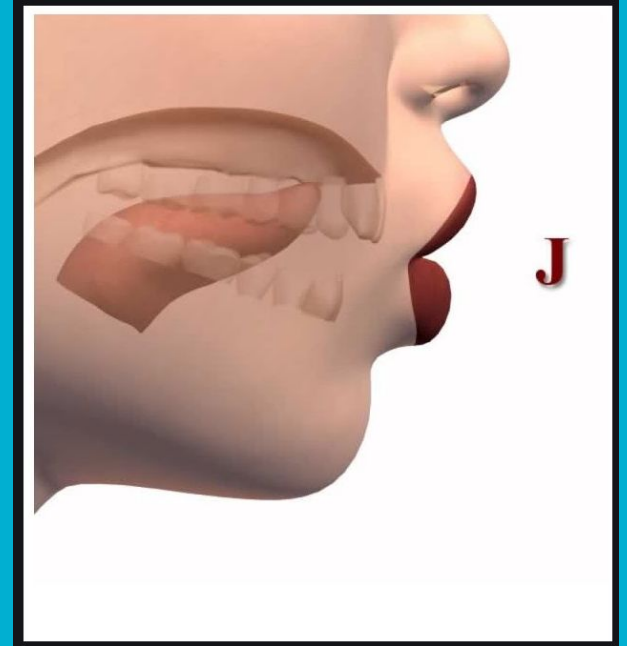
# J: Jumping Sound



- Same as “ch”, but your voice is ON
- Round your lips and keep teeth together
- Make the air explode out of your mouth
- Use the middle of your tongue to make the sound back behind the ridge

# J

- Same as ch, but your voice is ON
- Round your lips and keep teeth together
- Make the air explode out of your mouth
- Use the middle of your tongue to make the sound back behind the ridge



/j/

Jaw

manager

age

Juice

magic

fudge

Jelly

pages

stage

Jacket

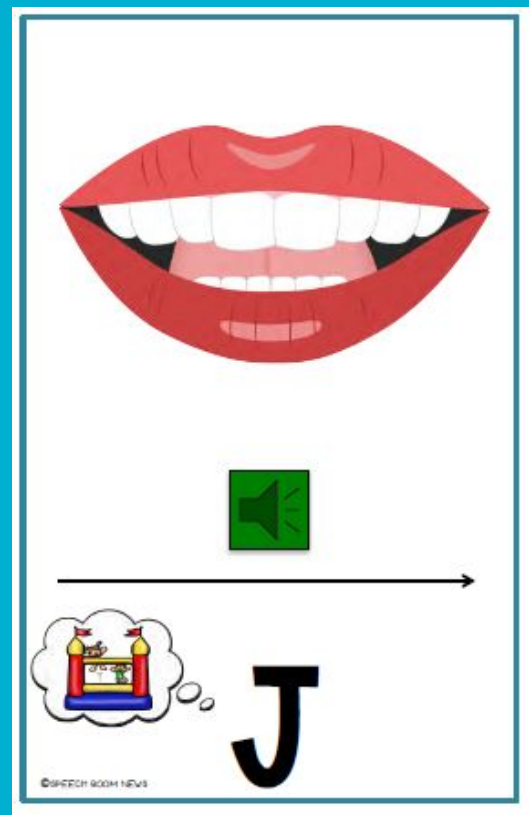
garbage

package

Giraffe

cages

bandage



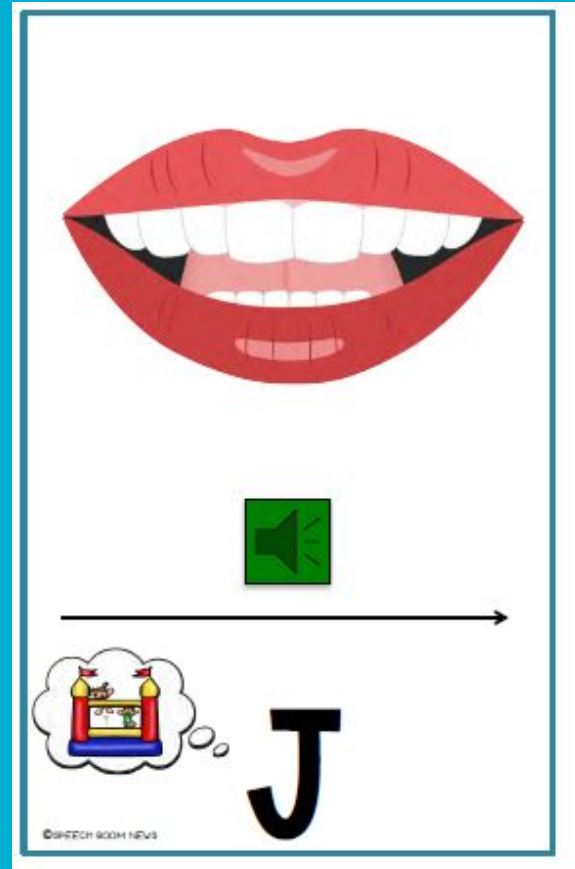


# J Tongue twisters

Jenny needs new jeans.

Julie took a job flying a jet.

I took the message in my pajamas.



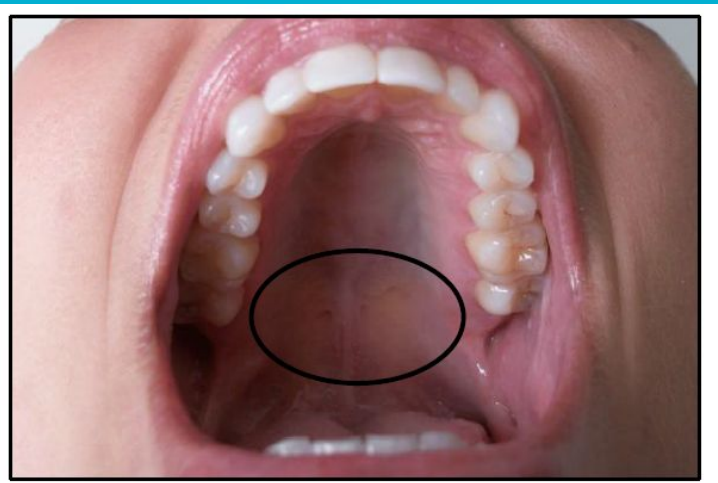
# TONGUE & PALATE



K

G

The back-roof is the right spot for /k/, /g/, and /r/



# K: Coughing Sound

# G: Frog Sound



# K: Practice List and Tongue Twisters

---

Cat                  Bacon                  Bike                  The baker made candy pumpkin  
cookies.

Cold                  Soccer                  Leak

Kid                  Local                  Oak

Key                  Education                  Sock

Cone                  Ticket                  Took

Cook                  Pumpkin                  Desk

The soccer player took second place.

Kind kids are in Kindergarten.

# G: Practice List and Tongue Twisters

---

Go

Begin

Bag

Dou**g** got a **g**orgeous all**ig**ator.

Gap

Forget

Pug

Get

Single

Long

To**g**ether the **g**orilla and pig **g**ardened.

Golf

Sugar

Clog

Guess

Yoga

Wig

The do**g** wa**gg**ed his tail at the jo**gg**er.

Gift

Luggage

Dig

# Lungs

Your lungs give you air to make every sound - especially “H” because it’s all air



# H: Practice List and Tongue Twisters

---

Hammer

Ohio

The **h**ungry **h**ippo was un**h**appy.

Help

Behave

Hit

Pothole

The **h**oney bee **h**id in the bee**h**ive.

Hot

Groundhog

Hoot

Lighthouse

**H**is **h**ot brother **h**iked up the **h**ill.

Hug

Doghouse

# R Is Hard!

---

Usually the last sound people learn to make,

Some accents/languages don't even use it,

It is really hard to see inside someone's mouth to know what they are doing!



# The way I teach R ...your “speech” kids know...

---

Use your tongue in the back - not your lips!

Tongue up!

Tongue back!

Don't use your lips (smile)!

*Sides of the tongue touch inside of back teeth.*





Red vs. wed  
Ride vs. wide  
Ripe vs. wipe  
Run vs. won  
Right vs. white  
Rag vs. wag  
Rich vs. witch



Can you hear the difference? “R” or “W”?

**/r/**

Rat

Real

Rip

Rodeo

Rug

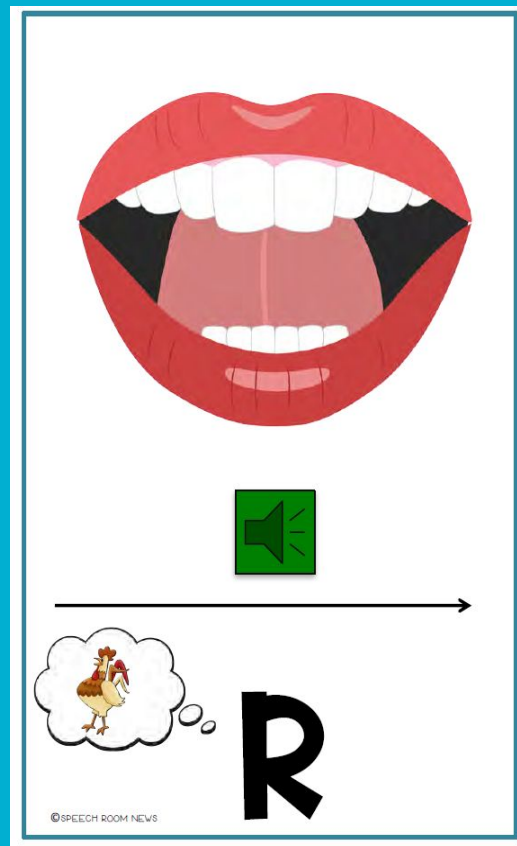
Race

Rest

Right

Robin

Rude



**/r/**

Brain

Crate

Drive

Free

Grass

Prize

Trick

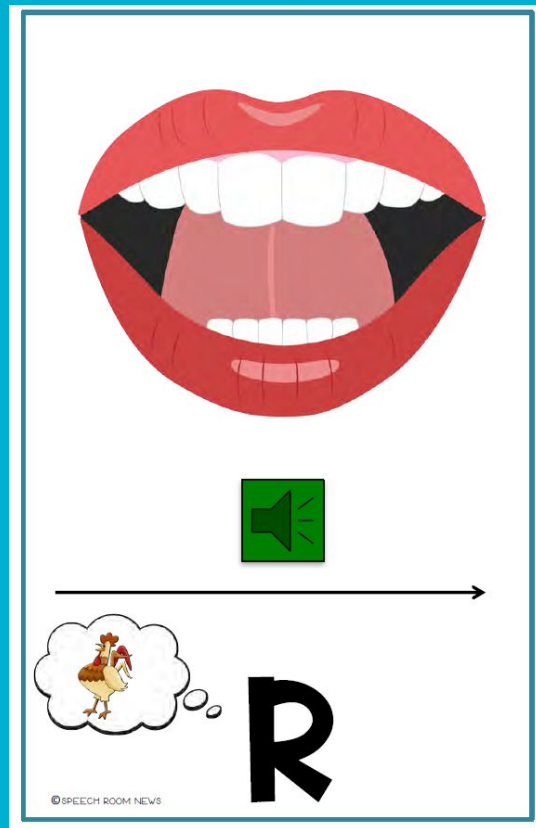
Arcade

Earth

Ear

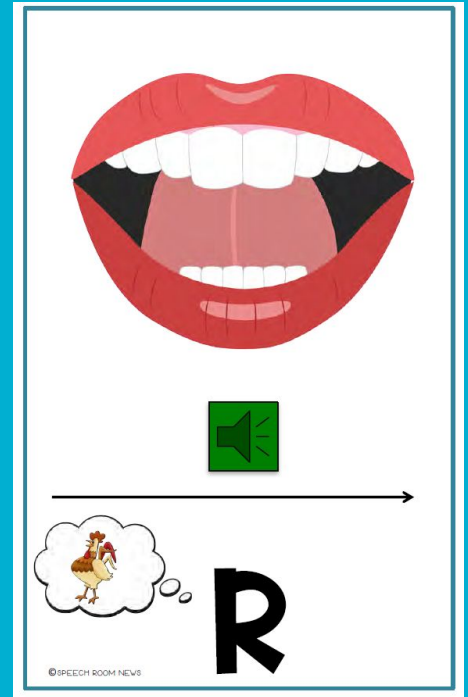
Orange

Ursula



# R Tongue Twisters

- Jerry's berries taste really ripe.
- Rory's rake never rakes right.
- Ryan likes to read really long stories.



# R-Blend Word Lists

Brag

Crack

Draw

Bread

Crawl

Drink

Brother

Cry

Dry

Brew

Crop

Drum

Brick

Crow

Drip

# R-Blend Word Lists

Frame

Grain

Prey

Freedom

Grass

Price

Fry

Greet

Prom

Frost

Grill

Prune

Fruit

Grandma

Proof



# R-Blend Word Lists

Train




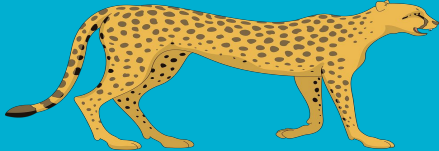
Tree

Trim

Truck

Troop

# Important Things To Remember When Talking

- Look at the person you are talking to 
- Don't cover your mouth 
- Move your “speech helpers” lips, tongue, jaw, etc. 
- Don't talk too fast like a cheetah! 

**Thank You For Practicing!**

