

Orchard Springs Elementary

Kindergarten Registration

Speech & Language Skills

As your child grows, their communication skills continue to develop. By four years of age they should be using grammatically correct sentences and most speech sounds should be correct. They will continue to develop a larger vocabulary and increase the length and complexity of sentences as they get older.

Kindergarteners should be able to:

- Follow commands even though objects are not present such as "Go get your shoes."
- Use 5 or 6 word sentences
- Ask and answer questions using "who", "what," "where," "when" and "why"
- Use most speech sounds correctly with some exceptions
- Retell a story
- Use grammatically correct sentences
- Be understood by unfamiliar listeners

At what age should my child be able to say each sound correctly?

3 Years	3 - 4 Years	4 - 5 Years	5 - 6 Years	6 - 7 Years	7 - 9 Years
m, n, p, b, h, w, t, d	k, g, f	y	l, v	sh, ch, j	r, s, z, th

Screen Time: Children need LAPS NOT APPS!

Screen overuse puts your child at risk for language disorders. Every 30 minutes of daily screen use increased risk of expressive speech delay in ages 6 months to 2 years by almost 50%. Screen overuse in children can mimic ADHD, speech-language impairment, social disorders, or autism. If they see you overusing your phone, they will follow and are missing out on essential language interaction. Screen time should NEVER interfere with sleep, exercise, or daily living activities.

Suggested screen time according to American Academy of Pediatrics:

Under 18 months: NO screen time other than occasional video chatting.

2-5 years: No more than 1 hour high quality programming per day, watch with your child.

5-18 years: Less than 2 hours per day. Set consistent limits on carefully chosen media.

You can help your child's speech & language by:

- Reducing or eliminating screen time.
- Talking with your child about their feelings, ideas, etc.
- Not using baby talk when you speak to your child. Be a good speech model.
- Letting them make up stories for you, or making up stories together.
- Letting your child watch your face, lips, and tongue as you form sounds and words.
- Prolonging the speech sounds they have difficulty with. (i.e. "where is your ssssssock?")
- Reading to your child every day.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Stephanie Gross, M.Ed., CCC-SLP, at sgross@wsd.net or (801) 395-5657.