



Fremantle Speech Pathology Services

Learn How Words Work

4 Year Old Checklist

A 4 year old child should demonstrate the following behaviours

Understanding

- UNDERSTAND INSTRUCTIONS WITHOUT STOPPING WHAT THEY ARE DOING
- UNDERSTAND MORE COMPLICATED WORDS SUCH AS 'FIRST', 'LAST', 'MIGHT', 'MAYBE', 'ABOVE' AND 'IN-BETWEEN'
- IN GENERAL, THERE SHOULD BE A HIGH LEVEL OF DAILY UNDERSTANDING

Speaking

- TAKE TURNS IN MUCH LONGER CONVERSATIONS
- USE SENTENCES THAT ARE WELL FORMED. SOME GRAMMATICAL ERRORS ARE STILL OK E.G. "DRIVED FOR DROVE"
- INCLUDE COMPLEXITY IN THEIR STORIES AND USE JOINING WORDS LIKE 'AND' 'THEN' 'BECAUSE'.

When to be concerned

- IS STUTTERING (REPEATING SOUNDS OR WORDS OR PROLONGING SOUNDS)
- IS NOT UNDERSTOOD BY UNFAMILIAR LISTENERS / GETS FRUSTRATED BY NOT BEING UNDERSTOOD
- IS HAVING DIFFICULTY WITH ANY SOUNDS EXCEPT: R, L, TH AND V
- IS NOT TALKING IN COMPLETE SENTENCES
- HAS A LIMITED VOCABULARY