



Fremantle Speech Pathology Services

Learn How Words Work

5 Year Old Checklist

A 5 year old child should be able to hold a conversation, follow most instructions and be understood by most unfamiliar listeners.

When to be concerned?

You may wish to consider a referral if you know a child who...

- IS SLOW TO FOLLOW DIRECTIONS OR NEEDS LOTS OF REPETITION
- STRUGGLES TO TURN IDEAS INTO SENTENCES
- 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 FOR: TH
- CANNOT PARTICIPATE IN DETAILED CONVERSATIONS
- IS RELUCTANT TO ANSWER QUESTIONS IN THE CLASSROOM
- IS HAVING DIFFICULTY WITH PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS OR LETTER-SOUND KNOWLEDGE TASKS
- IS HAVING DIFFICULTY LEARNING TO READ
- FINDS IT DIFFICULT TO FIND WORDS THAT 'START WITH THE SAME SOUNDS', OR WORDS THAT START WITH A SPECIFIED SOUND (E.G. "SHOW ME ALL THE WORDS THAT START WITH THE 'P' SOUND")
- IS NOT ENGAGING IN APPROPRIATE SOCIAL INTERACTIONS WITH OTHER CHILDREN
- PREFERS TO BE QUIET AND NOT INITIATE CONVERSATION