



Will Your Child be a Good Reader?

The facts about speech-language and reading?

- Strong speech and language skills are essential for reading and writing success.
- Knowledge about words and sounds (**phonological awareness skills**) is directly related to reading and writing ability.
- Children with speech and language delays are at a high risk for delays in reading and writing.
- Children with strong language and phonological awareness skills do better on tasks of reading and writing than children with poor phonological awareness skills.



What Your Child Needs to Know

For preschoolers: Below are the basic speech and language skills essential to your child's ability to communicate with others and to get him or her ready to learn reading and writing.

- Speech sound production (saying each sound within a word)
- Vocabulary
- Following directions
- Using grammatically correct sentences to communicate
- Using word endings (i.e., jumped)
- Answering questions
- Telling about simple events and stories
- Conversing with others
- Phonological Awareness (inclusive of rhyming, word games, sound matching and more)

For school-aged children: School-aged children should have developed the skills above as well as have more advanced skills such as:

- Using complex sentence structure
- Telling complex stories
- Summarizing, predicting and clarifying information
- Using figurative language (using abstract words such as "doubt" and using non-literal phrases such as "hit the road")
- Reading and writing
- Phonological awareness

If you have concerns about your child's reading, writing or spelling, a speech-pathologist can help you determine if it is related to his or her speech/language skills.
