

Clear Speech Pathology Clinic

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“Listen, understand, speak & be understood”

COMMON PHONOLOGICAL PROCESSES

| PHONOLOGICAL PROCESS | EXAMPLE | Age at which process is typically eliminated |
|---|--|---|
| Reduplication: A complete or incomplete syllable is repeated. | Water--> wawa | 3 years |
| Final consonant deletion: The consonant at the end of the word is deleted. | Cup-->cu | |
| Pre-Vocalic voicing: A voiceless sound before a vowel is replacement with a voiceless consonant | Pig--> big | |
| Word final devoicing: A voiced consonant at the end of a word is replaced with a voiceless consonant | Kid-->kit | |
| Backing: A sound made at the front of the mouth (front/alveolar sound) is substituted with a sound made at the back of the mouth (back/velar sound) | Tip-->kip Date-->gate Boat-->boke | Typically seen in severe phonological delays |
| Initial consonant deletion: A consonant at the start of a word is deleted. | Cat-->at Bed-->ed | |
| Fronting (velar or palatal): A sound made in the back of the mouth is replaced with a sound produced in the front of the mouth. | Gill-->till Cot-->dot | 3;6 |
| Stopping: A stop sound (p, b, t, d, k, g) replaces a fricative (f, s, v, h, z) or affricate sound (ch, j) | /s/ sip-->dip /f/ fit-->bit /v/ very-->berry /z/ zoo-->doo /sh/ shoe-->do /j/ jet-->det /ch/ /chip-->dip /th/ thing-->ting /th/ them-->dem | 3;0 3;0 3;6 3;6 4;6 4;6 4;6 5;0 5;0 |
| Assimilation: A sound starts to sound like | Mine-->mine | 3;9 |

| | | |
|---|---|-----|
| a surrounding sound. | Bed-->beb | |
| Weak syllable detection: Weak (unstressed) syllables are deleted from words with 2+ syllables | Banana-->nana Telephone-->teffone Potato-->tato | 4;0 |
| Cluster reduction: Reduction of a cluster (2 consonants together) to a single sound.. | Stick-->sick Frog-->fog Tree-->tee | 4;0 |
| Gliding: Liquid sounds (/l/ & /r/ are replaced with glides (/w/ & /y/)) | Ladder-->wadder Rabbit-->wabbit Light-->yight Play-->pway Run-->wun | 5;0 |
| Labialisation: The /th/ sound is replaced with a /f/ sound. | Think-->fink Thumb-->fum | 7;0 |


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