



Early Communication Resources

The goal of speech therapy (SLP) is effective communication between your child and the world around (family, school and community) him. Communication includes not only speech, but also facial expressions, smiles, gestures, and alternative systems such as sign language. Speech and language challenges emerge for many children with Down syndrome. A child who has Down syndrome may have more difficulty with expressive language (talking) than with receptive language (understanding). As with all other areas of development, the age in which children with Down syndrome have speech mastery varies greatly.

The DSAGSL has compiled a list of resources to help parents and caregivers learn about how speech develops and activities they can do with their child.

Webinars:

- Early Communication Development and Down syndrome <http://www.childrenshospital.org/centers-and-services/programs/a--e/down-syndrome-program/patient-resources> (Videos are listed about halfway down the page)
- Multimodal Approach to Teaching Children with Down syndrome Speech & Language Skills - What You Need to Know <https://www.globaldownsyndrome.org/globals-webinar-series-may-recap/>

YouTube videos:

- Understanding and Expression of Language in Down syndrome <https://www.dsrf.org/programs-&-resources/our-videos/communication-video-1--understanding-and-expression-of-language-in-down-syndrome>

- How to Teach k and g sounds – Fun with Lollipops <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=megGv7jH0a0>

Information and Activities:

- Early Communication Development and Down Syndrome – Boston Children’s Hospital - <http://dsagsl.org/boston-childrens-early-communication-guide>
- 9 Activities to Help Children with Down syndrome develop speech <https://twominuteparenting.com/9-activities-to-develop-speech-in-down-syndrome/>
- Simple DIY Infant Activities to Promote Development (free e-book) <https://learnwithless.com/free-ebook/>
- Top 10 Ways to Use Bubbles for Language Development <http://mommyspeechtherapy.com/?p=38>
- First Word to Phrases - <https://www.ndscenter.org/wp-content/uploads/First-Words.pdf>
- Speech and Language Resources <https://www.ndscenter.org/programs-resources/speech-and-language/>
- Speech Therapy Resources for Toddler with Down syndrome – Books, Toys, Music, Ideas - <https://mercyformarthas.com/2020/04/04/speech-therapy-resources-for-toddlers-with-down-syndrome/>
- Top 5 Speech Therapy tips for Children with Down syndrome <https://www.cedarsstory.com/top-5-speech-therapy-tips-children-syndrome/>
- Speech and Language Development for Infants with Down syndrome – in-depth program of activities and advice designed to assist in the development of speech and language skills from birth to 5 years <https://asociatiadart.files.wordpress.com/2015/01/speech-language-0-5-ebook.pdf>
- Resource Guide to Oral Motor Skill Difficulties in Children with Down syndrome - <https://www.ndscenter.org/wp-content/uploads/OralMotor.pdf>

Online Learning Resources

- Signing Times - <https://www.signingtime.com> (can purchase subscription)
- See and Learn Speech - <https://www.seeandlearn.org/en-us/speech> (apps and kits for purchase)
- Video sign language dictionary - <https://www.signingsavvy.com>

