

WHAT IS SPEECH AND LANGUAGE?

Speech and Language consists of four general areas:

Articulation: how your child pronounces individual speech sounds, for example, /s/ or /l/.

Language:

Vocabulary: the number of things that your child can identify or name, e.g., body parts, objects, animals, actions (blowing, peeling), events (accident)

Receptive Language:

Auditory Processing: understanding of questions and following directions

Concepts: colors, numbers, size, position in space (behind, beside, under), texture

Expressive Language: the length of the phrases/sentences your child uses, whether or not the grammar is correct, ability to express thoughts and feelings, and ability to tell a story in order

Verbal Reasoning: the ways in which your child can think using language, for example, opposites, functions, categories, telling how things are alike/different

Fluency: how smoothly your child speaks both into and between words of a sentence (Does he get stuck on sounds or words? Does he repeat words or phrases? Does he avoid certain words?)

Voice: the quality of the sound of the voice (Does your child sound hoarse? Or rough? Most of the time?)

Crisler Lovendahl, M.A., CCC-SP
February, 1985