



Speech By The Bay
SPEECH, LANGUAGE & FEEDING THERAPY

Articulation & Phonological Processes Checklist

Track speech sound development using research-based articulation norms and phonological process ages.

Child's Name: _____ **Date Started:** _____ **Age:** _____

This checklist combines two of the most commonly used clinical references in one place: consonant sound acquisition norms (which sounds a child is expected to produce, and by when) and phonological process suppression ages (which speech patterns/simplifications a child is expected to outgrow, and by when). Norms are reported at the 90% criterion — the age by which 90% of typically developing children produce the sound correctly. These are general guides, not diagnostic cutoffs; a full articulation and language evaluation by an SLP is the best way to determine if therapy is needed.

Sources: Crowe, K., & McLeod, S. (2020). Children's English Consonant Acquisition in the United States: A Review. *American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology*, 29, 2155–2169.

CONSONANT SOUNDS BY AGE

Sounds Typically Mastered By Age 2

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ /p/ — pig, cup | ☐ /b/ — book, tub |
| ☐ /d/ — dog, bed | ☐ /m/ — mom, gum |
| ☐ /n/ — no, sun | ☐ /h/ — hat, ahead |
| ☐ /w/ — win, away | |

Sounds Typically Mastered By Age 3

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ /t/ — top, cat | ☐ /k/ — cat, book |
| ☐ /g/ — go, bag | ☐ /ŋ/ (ng) — ring, sing |
| ☐ /f/ — fan, leaf | ☐ /j/ (y) — yes, yellow |

Sounds Typically Mastered By Age 4

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ /v/ — van, love | ☐ /s/ — sun, bus |
| ☐ /z/ — zoo, buzz | ☐ /ʃ/ (sh) — shoe, wish |
| ☐ /tʃ/ (ch) — chip, watch | ☐ /dʒ/ (j) — jam, cage |
| ☐ /l/ — lip, ball | |

Sounds Typically Mastered By Age 5

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ /ð/ (th, voiced) — this, feather | ☐ /z/ (zh) — measure, vision |
| ☐ /r/ — red, car | |

Sounds Typically Mastered By Age 6

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|--|
| ☐ /θ/ (th, voiceless) — think, bath |
|--|

PHONOLOGICAL PROCESSES — TYPICAL AGES OF SUPPRESSION

Process	Example	Typical Age of Suppression
Final Consonant Deletion	Example: “boo” for “book”	Typically resolves by 3 years
Unstressed / Weak Syllable Deletion	Example: “nana” for “banana”	Typically resolves by 4 years
Reduplication	Example: “wawa” for “water”	Typically resolves by 3 years
Consonant Harmony / Assimilation	Example: “gog” for “dog”	Typically resolves by 3 years
Cluster Reduction (without /s/)	Example: “poon” for “spoon”	Typically resolves by 4 years
Cluster Reduction (with /s/)	Example: “top” for “stop”	Typically resolves by 5 years
Velar Fronting	Example: “tan” for “can”	Typically resolves by 3.5 years
Stopping (/f/, /s/)	Example: “pan” for “fan”	Typically resolves by 3 years
Stopping (/v/, /z/)	Example: “dip” for “zip”	Typically resolves by 3.5 years
Stopping (sh, ch, j)	Example: “tip” for “ship”	Typically resolves by 4.5 years
Stopping (voiceless th)	Example: “tink” for “think”	Typically resolves by 5 years
Deaffrication	Example: “ship” for “chip”	Typically resolves by 4 years
Gliding	Example: “wed” for “red”, “yellow” for “yellow”	Typically resolves by 6 years
Vocalization	Example: “bottuh” for “bottle”	Typically resolves by 6–7 years

ATYPICAL PATTERNS — REFER FOR EVALUATION AT ANY AGE

Pattern	Description
Backing	“gog” for “dog” (front sound replaced with a back sound)
Initial Consonant Deletion	“ee” for “tree” (leaves off the beginning sound)

These patterns are not considered a typical part of speech development at any age and generally warrant referral to a speech-language pathologist for a full evaluation.

Notes / Sounds & Patterns to Track Over Time

WRITE IN ANY OTHER WORDS YOUR CHILD SAYS (15 LINES)

☐ _____	☐ _____
☐ _____	☐ _____
☐ _____	☐ _____
☐ _____	☐ _____
☐ _____	☐ _____
☐ _____	☐ _____
☐ _____	☐ _____
☐ _____	☐ _____
☐ _____	☐ _____