speech buddies.

PROFESSIONAL SET INSTRUCTION GUIDE

WELCOME TO SPEECH BUDDIES[™]!

Congratulations on your **Speech Buddies** purchase! You are on your way to new breakthroughs with the hardest problem sounds:



HOW SPEECH BUDDIES WORK

Speech Buddies are handheld helpers that allow children to feel correct tongue placement required to produce problem sounds. **Speech Buddies** can quickly help children turn their *Wabbits* into *Rabbits, Wessons* into *Lessons*, and *Thocks* into *Socks*. This tactile feedback within the mouth is often just what kids need to achieve learning breakthroughs.

SPEECH BUDDIES IN YOUR HOME OR IN THERAPY

Incorporating **Speech Buddies** into your routine helps make speech practice an exciting activity. You already knew that practice makes perfect. But with **Speech Buddies**, practice also makes fun.

The **Speech Buddies** set was designed to be used by speech therapists, parents, and children. Speech therapists use **Speech Buddies** to complement their current practice and to help them overcome the challenges they face on a day-to-day basis whether clients are new to therapy, resistant to therapy, or are in group therapy. Parents can choose to use **Speech Buddies** at home with their child or bring their Buddy to speech therapy lessons with the goal of accelerating learning and correcting problem sounds.

THREE EASY STEPS TO USING YOUR SPEECH BUDDIES

Step 1: Find the Speech Buddy[™] Target

Give the child a chance to get comfortable with his or her **Speech Buddy**. Allow the child to handle his **Speech Buddy**, point out the target, and let him touch it with his finger.



Step 2: Position your Speech Buddy

Grip the handle of your **Speech Buddy** like a pen and insert the tip into the child's mouth. See detailed instructions on pages 6-11 for specifics on the positioning of each unique **Speech Buddy**.





Step 3: Speak!

- Once the Speech Buddy is in place, confirm that the child can feel the target with her tongue. Have her nod with a simple yes or no.
- Prompt the sound while the tongue is touching the target.
- Once the correct sound has been achieved, alternate prompting consecutive productions with and without the **Speech Buddy** as needed.



Practice Tips:

- It may take several attempts, but keep practicing! Remember: correct pronunciation with your **Speech Buddy** leads to correct pronunciation without your **Speech Buddy**.
- If the correct sound cannot be pronounced, try repositioning the **Speech Buddy**.
- Once the child has become familiar with how to use the **Speech Buddy**, you may encourage the child to hold the handle by himself to build more confidence in producing the sound correctly.
- Start with just the sound alone (isolation), then sounds in simple syllables.
- Next, move to words with the sound in different positions: beginning, middle, and end. See our word guides on page 12 for sample words.
- Finally, move to phrases and sentences.



The **R** Speech Buddy teaches a child to make a perfect **R** sound by curling the tongue tip up and back in the mouth; this method is called retroflexion.

Step 1: Find the targets

Identify the coil and bumps. These will help position the tongue and the Speech Buddy in the mouth.

Step 2: Position

Hold the handle with the logo pointing up and position the <u>coil</u> in the mouth so that it is <u>behind the</u> <u>upper front teeth</u> and centered in the mouth. Hold the **Speech Buddy** loosely in your hand and confirm that the <u>bumps</u> on the coil lightly rest on the <u>tip of the tongue</u>. These bumps help the child feel the correct starting location for the tongue. The tongue tip should fall between the two sets of these bumps.

Step 3: Speak!

Once the **Speech Buddy** is in place, hold the handle firmly and ask the child to attempt to unroll the coil with his tongue tip while simultaneously saying the **R** sound. If the **R** sound is pronounced correctly, the child will be able to feel the coil either fully or partially uncoil. If the sound is pronounced incorrectly, it will not uncoil. The child should be able to clearly feel this difference with her tongue. If the child is unable to uncoil the **Speech Buddy** after repeated attempts, reposition the coil by angling the handle or moving the coil slightly deeper or shallower in the mouth; then try again.



USING YOUR L SPEECH BUDDY

Step 1: Find the target

Identify the contoured target and the bend on the tip of the **Speech Buddy**. Touching this target with the tongue tip will help position the tongue perfectly to make the **L** sound.

Step 2: Position

Position the <u>bend</u> of the **Speech Buddy** on the <u>bottom</u> of the two <u>top front teeth</u>. Ensure that the handle is angled appropriately to bring the <u>target</u> against the <u>back</u> of the <u>top front teeth</u>. Adjust the handle angle as needed to place and maintain the target in position. Pull slightly back against the back of the teeth and use just enough pressure to hold the **Speech Buddy** in position.

Step 3: Speak!

Instruct the child to first make contact with the <u>target</u> using the <u>tip of the tongue</u> and then to say the **L** sound while trying to contact that target. In addition, cue an open mouth posture while saying **L**.





USING YOUR CH SPEECH BUDDY

Step 1: Find the target

Identify the pronged target and the bend on the tip of the **Speech Buddy**. Touching this target with the tongue blade will help position the tongue perfectly to make the **CH** sound.

Step 2: Position

Position the <u>bend</u> of the **Speech Buddy** on the <u>bottom</u> of the two <u>top front teeth</u>. Ensure that the handle is angled appropriately to bring the <u>target</u> against the <u>roof of the mouth</u>. Adjust the handle angle as needed to place and maintain the target in position. Pull slightly back against the back of the teeth and use just enough pressure to hold the **Speech Buddy** in position.

Step 3: Speak!

top front teeth bend

Instruct the child to first make contact with the <u>target</u> using the <u>top portion of the tongue</u> near the tip of the tongue. Then instruct the child to say **CH** while trying to contact that target.



Step 1: Find the target

Identify the circular target on the tip of the **Speech Buddy** and the tooth stop. The tooth stop will help position the **Speech Buddy** in the mouth against the teeth and the target will help position the tip of the tongue perfectly to make the **S** sound.

Step 2: Position

Align the <u>tooth stop</u> on the <u>front</u> of the top <u>front</u> <u>teeth</u> while the bottom of the horizontal support is against the bottom of the front teeth. Ensure that the centering ridge is between the child's two front teeth. In the case of misaligned teeth, center the **Speech Buddy** in the mouth. Push slightly against the teeth and use just enough pressure to hold the **Speech Buddy** in position. Keep the handle level.

Step 3: Speak!

Instruct the child to first make contact with the <u>target</u> using the <u>tip of the tongue</u> and then to say the **S** sound while trying to contact the target. In addition, instruct the child to smile while saying **S**.





Step 1: Find the target

Identify the circular target on the tip of the **Speech Buddy** and the tooth stop. The tooth stop will help position the **Speech Buddy** in the mouth against the teeth and the target will help position the tip of the tongue perfectly to make the **SH** sound.

Step 2: Position

Align the <u>tooth stop</u> on the <u>front</u> of the top <u>front</u> <u>teeth</u> while the bottom of the horizontal support is against the bottom of the front teeth. Ensure that the centering ridge is between the child's two front teeth. In the case of misaligned teeth, center the **Speech Buddy** in the mouth. Push slightly against the teeth and use just enough pressure to hold the **Speech Buddy** in position. Keep the handle level.

Step 3: Speak!

Instruct the child to make contact with the <u>target</u> using the <u>tip of the tongue</u> and then to say **SH** while contacting the target. In addition, instruct the child to make a "fish face" by protruding the lips.



WORD GUIDES

Use these words to help guide your practice with **Speech Buddies.** Start with just the sound alone (isolation), then sounds in simple syllables (e.g. **r**a, **r**i, **ch**a, **ch**u). Next, move to words with the sound in different positions: beginning, middle, and end. Finally, move to phrases and sentences.



ont: ring, row, rag, rack, wreck, rake, rain, rye, wrong, rock iddle: hurry, carry, hairy, try, clearing, court, pry, form, learned, arrow year, gear, air, ear, cure, where, her, car, near, here

ront:lucky, lion, lamp, listen, look, lizard, lip, latch, limp, looseNiddle:chili, really, bowling, stellar, chiller, dollar, calendar, solar, pillarnd:feel, pull, peel fall, nail, shawl, doll, mall, call, mail, gale

chair, check, chalk, charge, chipmunk, children, chocolate, checker, choice
scratching, teacher, century, marching, matched, recharge, reaching
coach, crunch, stretch, research, such, teach, march

sont:saw, sea, sock, sick, sun, sack, sit, sink, sound, singiddle:glasses, castle, dinosaur, dresser, wrestle, whistle, also, answer, east, costhouse, gas, rice, dress, yes, nice, race, case, ace, ice

nt: show, she, share, shock, shark, shine, shank, shade, shore, shell ddle: washing, brusher, pushed, unshell, reship, reassure d: crash, wish, wash, dish, rush, ash, dash, rash, crush, hush

SPEECH BUDDIES UNIVERSITY

Practice Makes Perfect!

For more practice at home check out our online training program at **www.speechbuddy.com**. Speech language pathologists can recommend exercises for their students and easily track their progress. Parents can also work with their kids at home and watch their improvement over time.

Sample Online Program:

Practice 4 times per week for 10 minutes Weeks 1-2: Beginner, with Speech Buddy Weeks 3-8: Intermediate, with & without Speech Buddy

Weeks 9-12: Advanced, without Buddy



SPEECH BUDDY GUARANTEE

Articulate Technologies fully stands behind its products. If you are not satisfied with your **Speech Buddy** you may return it within 30 days of purchase, in working condition, for a full refund.

WHO CAN SPEECH BUDDIES HELP?

Speech Buddies have helped patients age four and older with:

- Speech and articulation disorders of all severities and several types, including hearing impairment (with or without cochlear implants), autism spectrum disorder, or no known cause.
- Childhood apraxia of speech
- Acquired apraxia of speech from stroke or traumatic brain injury (TBI)
- Accent modification where English sounds are misarticulated due to a foreign accent

Speech Buddies are still being evaluated for:

- Speech and articulation disorders associated with neuromuscular weakness, cerebral palsy, paralysis, and Down Syndrome
- Post surgical cleft palate

Speech Buddies are not recommended for:

- Language disorders
- Stuttering
- Voice disorders

WARNINGS

- DO NOT use the **Speech Buddy** on multiple patients.
- DO NOT use if the **Speech Buddy** or package is damaged.
- DO NOT allow the **Speech Buddy** to be used by a child without direct adult supervision.
- DO NOT use the **Speech Buddy** on children younger than the age of 4.

PRECAUTIONS

- DO NOT allow patient to chew on the **Speech Buddy.**
- DO NOT allow patient to put the handle of the **Speech Buddy** in his or her mouth, it could become a choking hazard.
- DO NOT bend or deform the **Speech Buddies** for prolonged periods or when closing the carrying case. They will become permanently distorted. Ensure that each color **Speech Buddy** has been returned to its designated slot.
- DO NOT wash your **Speech Buddy** in the dishwasher.
- To wash your **Speech Buddy**, use mild soap and water or submerge tip in 70% isopropyl alcohol. Rinse thoroughly with water.
- Store in a cool and dry place. DO NOT expose to temperatures in excess of 110°F (43°C) or below 32°F (0°C).

INTENDED USE

Exerciser, Non-Measuring



MANUFACTURED BY

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