GETTING TO KNOW YOUR SPEECH BUDDY™

Give the patient a chance to familiarize themselves with their Speech Buddy™. Allow the patient to handle their Speech Buddy™ themselves, point out the target to them and let them touch it with their finger.

HOW TO POSITION YOUR /ch/ SPEECH BUDDY™

Grip the handle of your Speech Buddy™ like a pen. Insert the tip of your Speech Buddy™ into the patient’s mouth. Position the ‘bend’ of the Speech Buddy™ on the bottom of the two top front teeth.

Ensure that the handle is angled appropriately to bring the target against the roof of the mouth. Adjust 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.

USING YOUR /ch/ SPEECH BUDDY™

The first step towards proper articulation of the /ch/ sound is to achieve a correct production of the sound with the Speech Buddy™ in place. Once the Speech Buddy™ is in place, confirm that the patient can feel the target with the tip of their tongue. Have them respond with a simple yes or no.

Instruct the patient to first make contact with the target using the tip portion of the tongue near the tip of the tongue. Then instruct the patient to say the /ch/ sound while trying to contact the target.

Once a correct production has been achieved, alternate prompting consecutive productions with and without the Speech Buddy™ as needed.

Start first with sounds in isolation, then sounds in simple syllables (e.g. /che/). Next move to words with the /ch/ in initial position (cheetah), medial (match), final position (watch), and finally to phrases.