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 /sh/ SPEECH BUDDY™

Grip the handle of your Speech Buddy™ like a pen. Insert the tip of your Speech Buddy™ into the patient's mouth. Align the tooth stop on the front of the top front teeth while the bottom of the horizontal support is against the bottom of the front teeth.

Ensure that the centering ridge lies between both of the two teeth or that the Speech Buddy is centered in the mouth in the case of misaligned teeth.

Push slightly against teeth and use just enough pressure to hold the Speech Buddy™ in position. Keep the rectangular handle level.

USING YOUR /sh/ SPEECH BUDDY™

The first step towards proper articulation of the /sh/ 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 of the tongue and then to say the /sh/ sound while trying to contact the target. In addition, instruct the patient to make a "fish face" by protruding the lips in a rounded posture.

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. shh). Next move to words with the /sh/ in initial position (shark), medial (bishop), final position (push), and finally to phrases.