

Phonological Processes

Voicing

When learning to talk, some children may have difficulties in producing and organizing their speech sounds in words. This results in speech that is unclear or difficult to understand. Speech and Language Therapists describe these errors as 'phonological processes'. Many of these error patterns are common in the early development of speech, however if they persist beyond the age that the majority of children stop using them, then speech development is impacted and intervention is recommended.

What is Voicing?

Sounds are classified as either voiced or voiceless sounds. When we use a voiced sound our vocal cords vibrate. If you put your hand on your throat, when you say a 'z' sound you will feel this vibration.

When children make a VOICING error they accidentally turn on their voice boxes when they don't need to, and this changes the sound from a quiet sound to a loud sound e.g. 'pear' would be produced as 'bear'

When a child is VOICING you may still understand them, however the meaning of the sentence may change or words will sound odd e.g. 'gar' instead of 'car'.

EXAMPLE.....

WHAT THEY ARE MEANT TO SAY....



WHAT THEY ACTUALLY SAY...



Many children
stop VOICING by
6 years

VOICING SOUND ERRORS

p	→	b
t	→	d
k	→	g
s	→	z