



**SLP** is short for Speech-Language Pathologist. SLPs work with children and adults who have speech and language disorders.

Speech and Language are different.

## What Is Speech?

**Speech** is how we say sounds and words. Speech includes:

### ***Articulation***

How we make speech sounds using the mouth, lips, and tongue. For example, we need to be able to say the “r” sound to say “rabbit” instead of “wabbit.”

### ***Voice***

How we use our vocal folds and breath to make sounds. Our voice can be loud or soft or high- or low-pitched. We can hurt our voice by talking too much, yelling, or coughing a lot.

### ***Fluency***

This is the rhythm of our speech. We sometimes repeat sounds or pause while talking. People who do this a lot may stutter.

## What Is Language?

**Language** refers to the words we use and how we use them to share ideas and get what we want. Language includes:

- What words mean. Some words have more than one meaning. For example, “star” can be a bright object in the sky or someone famous.
- How to make new words. For example, we can say “friendly,” “unfriendly” and mean something different.
- How to put words together. For example, in English we say, “Peg walked to the new store” instead of “Peg walk store new.”
- What we should say at different times. For example, we might be polite and say, “Would you mind moving your foot?” But, if the person does not move, we may say, “Get off my foot!”

Having trouble understanding what others say is a **receptive language** disorder. Having problems sharing our thoughts, ideas, and feelings is an **expressive language** disorder. It is possible to have both a receptive and an expressive language problem.

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