

Language Express

Preschool Speech & Language Services
Media Release



For immediate release: December 14, 2011

ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S SPEAKING OR LISTENING ABILITY?

DON'T WAIT AND SEE!

Getting your child ready for school really begins at birth. Children need to be able to speak clearly and ask questions, listen and follow directions, and play appropriately with other children. 10 – 12% of preschool children have speech and language difficulties that will make it hard for them to succeed in school and in life. These children will do better if they get help with their speech and language when they are very young. There is evidence that intervention during infancy or preschool age has a tremendous impact on children. A speech-language assessment can identify your child's strengths and needs, and can help you prepare your child for school. A speech-language pathologist evaluates all areas of your child's communication, including speech sound production, motor speech skills, language comprehension and expression, as well as social communication.

Can your four year old:

- Follow instructions with three or more steps?
e.g., "First get your crayons and paper, then draw a picture and then give it to Grandma."
- Use adult-type grammar?
- Tell stories with a clear beginning, middle and end?
- Talk to try to solve problems with adults and other children?
- Be understood by strangers almost all of the time?
- Make up simple rhymes? e.g., Cat-Bat
- Match some letters with their sounds e.g., letter T says 'tuh' ?
- Start a conversation and keep it going on the same topic for at least three turns?

DON'T WAIT AND SEE...*Junior Kindergarten-aged children born in 2007 must be referred before January 27th 2012 to receive an assessment and recommendations. After January 27th referrals will only be accepted for children born in 2008 or later.*

If you are concerned about your child's speech and language development, call the Language Express Preschool Speech System at 1-888-503-8885 / 613-283-2742. A speech-language assessment can identify your child's strengths and needs, and can help you prepare your child for success in communicating, reading and writing.

For more information, check out our website: www.language-express.ca.