

Norms for Speech and Phonological Development In Children under 7 years

Children cannot clearly articulate all sounds when they first start talking, however, by the age of seven years children should have clear speech. Some children may have difficulty with their speech and produce articulation errors or have a phonological delay or disorder. The table below outlines the ages that speech sounds develop and which phonological processes are age-appropriate.

Age	Articulation: <i>A child should be able to produce ALL sounds except</i>	Phonology: <i>Acceptable error patterns</i>																								
3 yrs to 3 yrs 5 months	sh zh (as in <u>treasure</u>) ch j th (voiceless as in <i>thin</i> and voiced as in <i>that</i>) r	<table> <tr> <td>Gliding</td> <td>light</td> <td>⇒ wight</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>red</td> <td>⇒ wed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fronting of velars</td> <td>car</td> <td>⇒ tar</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cluster Reduction</td> <td>spoon</td> <td>⇒ poon</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stopping of fricatives</td> <td>sun</td> <td>⇒ tun</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>four</td> <td>⇒ poor</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deaffrication</td> <td>chair</td> <td>⇒ shair</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Weak syllable deletion</td> <td>elephant</td> <td>⇒ ephant</td> </tr> </table>	Gliding	light	⇒ wight		red	⇒ wed	Fronting of velars	car	⇒ tar	Cluster Reduction	spoon	⇒ poon	Stopping of fricatives	sun	⇒ tun		four	⇒ poor	Deaffrication	chair	⇒ shair	Weak syllable deletion	elephant	⇒ ephant
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