
"At North Naples Speech and Language Services Inc., we believe that each child needs to possess the tools for effective communication. Effective communication is essential for a child's ability to develop friendships, solve problems, seek information, and express their feelings, wants and needs. Competent speech and language skills impacts a child's success in academics as well as interpersonal relationships."

Lori Tinney, Speech Pathologist/Director/Owner

Speech-Language Development 4-year old Checklist

A four-year-old has developed the language skills to carry on a short conversation. Speech is easily understood by an unfamiliar listener. The typical four-year-old will have about a 1500-1600 word vocabulary.

Speech-Language skills that have developed by age four include:

- ___ Answers wh- questions, where, what, who
- ___ Can ask a question with correct word order and syntax (does not say: "I can go with you?" or "We're done now?")
- ___ Knows opposites
- ___ Follows conditional directions with words like after, before
- ___ Is able to explain similarities and differences between like-objects
- ___ Is able to identify which two items from a group of three are related and explain the relationship (ex: "they are both fruit")
- ___ Is able to sequence events, can predict simple outcomes, and tell what would come next
- ___ Uses regular and irregular past tense (walked is regular, ran is irregular)
- ___ Uses plurals correctly
- ___ Uses pronouns correctly
- ___ Speaks in sentences 4-5 words in length
- ___ Repeats sentences such as "I like to play outside" without errors
- ___ Puts the ending sounds on all words (ie, hat, not ha) produces both sounds in sound clusters (spoon, not poon)
- ___ Uses the sounds m,n,ng,p,b,f,v,h,w,y,k,g,s,t,d correctly(basically all sounds except th,r,l— l is a 5 year old sound; th and r are 6 year old sounds,)