

Phonological TREATMENT APPROACHES

GENERAL TIPS

- Start with a thorough assessment
- Avoid target words that cause frustration
- Make sure child can discriminate correct/incorrect productions
- Watch for signs of frustration during treatment
- Monitor child's progress closely
- Try a new approach, if necessary
- Provide specific feedback to child
- Choose target words carefully
- Use fewer targets, higher number of trials
- Use high frequency words
- Teach the vocabulary if using unfamiliar word targets
- Make treatment fun
 - Puzzles
 - Games
 - Play based

MINIMAL OPPOSITIONS (MINIMAL PAIRS)

- Best for mild – moderate SSD
- Child uses consistent phonological processes
- Targets one new phoneme at a time
- Pairs child's error with the target
- Word pairs differ by only 1 sound/feature (i.e. t/k)
- Work at word level
- Focus on word meanings to support learning new sound

SAMPLE TARGETS

- Fronting: **tea-key**
- Stopping: **pour-four**
- Gliding: **one-run**
- FCD: **bye-bite**

MAXIMAL OPPOSITIONS

- Best for more severe SSD
- Good for child who demonstrates phoneme collapse
- Targets one new phoneme at a time
- Pairs child's error with a sound they can say
- Word pairs differ by more than one sound/feature (i.e. m/k)
- Work at word level
- Focus on word meanings to support learning new sound

SAMPLE TARGETS

- **mall-call**
- **man-fan**
- **cook-look**

Phonological TREATMENT APPROACHES

CYCLES APPROACH

- Best for highly unintelligible children who use multiple phonological processes
- Target one process/pattern at a time
- Cycle through even if error has not been resolved (~1 hour per target)
- Focus on primary patterns first, then secondary patterns
- Follows specific order in treatment
 - See this handout – [CLICK HERE](#)
- Choose target words carefully
- Use fewer targets, higher number of trials
- Use targets child is stimulable for
- Teach the vocabulary if using unfamiliar word targets
- Does not use word pairs
- Make trials fun and engaging!
 - Games, puzzles, etc.

MULTIPLE OPPOSITIONS

- Best for moderate - severe SSD
- Good for child who demonstrates phoneme collapse
- Targets up to 4 new phonemes at a time
- Pairs child's error with up to 4 target sounds
- Target words differ from error in as many ways as possible
- Work at word level
- Focus on word meanings to support learning new sounds

SAMPLE TARGETS

- **tea** – **key**, **pea**, **he**, **tree**
- **hi** – **pie**, **thigh**, **shy**, **bye**

COMPLEXITY APPROACH

- Best for more severe SSD
- Can be more efficient
 - More progress, less time
- Focus is on teaching more complex, non-stimulable sounds
 - Clusters, fricatives, affricates

TREATMENT OF THE EMPTY SET

- Best for more severe SSD
- Uses word pairs in which both words have targets the child says in error
- Pick targets that are specific to your child's errors
- Select targets that are maximally different