

# Frequently Targeted Phonemes in Speech

In therapy, you may hear me use semantic associations to help your kiddo identify the target phoneme we are working on. Here is a short list of some of the most common speech sounds that are addressed during sessions and what I call each sound so the client is able to make an association and differentiate between target sounds if we are working on more than one. While practicing speech sounds in syllables with my clients, I employ the evidence based elicitation approach called Dynamic Temporal and Tactile Cueing (DTTC) coined and developed by Dr. Edythe Strand (<https://www.apraxia-kids.org/apraxia-kids-library/integral-stimulation-method-adapted-for-children-as-dttc/>) Semantic cues is just one type of cue that I use during the session to aid in the client's understanding of placement and manner of the target sounds and moving from one target sound to the next within syllables. Vowel sound relationships will be added to my resources tab in the future. Having picture cues to relate to each verbally presented semantic cue ( e.g. picture of popcorn while working on the "p" sound) and a mirror may also be helpful.

Sound	Sound association cues	Additional cues/activities to address	Example words (in the initial position)
p	Popping popcorn sound	Blowing puffs of air, popping bubbles, "lips together and blow"	Pan, pop, pick, pine, peek
b	Bouncing ball sound	Using balls, bubbles, BINGO	Bay, boo, bee, ball, baby
k	Coughing sound	Touch your throat or the client's throat and talk about how it's a "back sound"	Camel, cat, king, kite, castle
g	Gulping/drinking sound	Touch your throat or the client's throat and talk about how it's a "back sound" and "voice on"	Go, gate, gum, guy, good
s	Slithering snake sound	Teeth together, blow air down the middle aiming at my nose.	Sink, sack, some, soup, same
z	Zippering zipper sound	Same cues as "s" but with voice on and we may use fun sounds like "zap" and "zoom" to address the target	Zoo, zip, zoom, zap, zebra
f	Fast fan sound	"bite your lip a little and blow"	Fog, fight, feet, fake, fun, farm

v	Vacuuming vacuum sound	“bite your lip and turn on your voice” “tickle your lip with your teeth”	Vase, voice, vine, vote, vacuum
l	La La/ our singing sound	“tongue up”	Liz ( that’s me!), lip, like, look, loop
w	Fish face sound	“lips like a circle”	Whale, water, whip, wipe, whistle
“ch”	Choo choo sound	“Teeth together, circle lips, and blow”	Chew, chin, chop, chase, chick
“th” (voiceless)	Thinking cap sound	“Tongue tip out and blow”	Thin, thumb, thank, thing, thief
“th” (voiced)	Tongue Tickles sound	“Tongue tip out, turn voice on, and tickle your tongue”	This, that, they, though, them
“sh”	Quiet sound	Hands to lips with index finger to lips and blow	Ship, show, shoe, shop, shower