

What can I do to help?

If your child has difficulty saying the "R" sound, you should consult with a certified Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP).



In the meantime, you can help your child to hear the "R" sound by playing this simple game. Say an "R" word correctly (rabbit) or incorrectly (wabbit). See if your child can identify the word with the correct "R" sound. Keep score for every "R" word your child hears correctly. Here is a list of "R" words to get started: *Ring, Rain, Rock, Road, Rat, Wrap, Wrist, Reach, Rule, Ride.*

Also, when your child says the "R" sound incorrectly, try not to be negative about it or make them try to repeat it correctly. In most cases, you will only be reinforcing an incorrect production of the "R" sound. His/her inability to produce a correct "R" sound may become frustrating. Instead, restate what your child said and say the "R" correctly for him/her. For example, if your child says, "That ball is wed," you can say, "Yes, that is a red ball" and emphasize a correct "R" sound.

References

Shriberg, L. & Kwiatkoski, J. (1983). Computer assisted natural process analysis (NPA): Recent issues and data. In J. Locke (Ed.), *Assessing and Treating Phonological Disorders: Current Approaches. Seminars in Speech and Language* (Vol. 4), New York: Thieme-Stratton.

Creaghead, N., Newman & Secord, W. (1998). *Assessment and Remediation of Articulatory and Phonological Disorders* (2nd ed.). New York: Macmillan.