Reminders

For good speech, language and hearing....

- Talk naturally to your child. Talk about what you are doing, what you see, what your child is doing, and what your child sees.
- Take time to listen to your child. Respond to what is said so your child knows you have been listening.
- Don't push your child to learn to talk. Accept some speech mistakes as your child develops. Don't ask your child to slow down and repeat.
- Have your child's hearing tested if you find you have to repeat a lot or have to talk loudly to get your child's attention.

Don't delay... the most critical time period for speech development is between one and three years of age. Never wait to get help for your child if you suspect a problem. If you think your child needs help, or if you have any questions, call Gresham Speech Therapy today!



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Gresham Speech Therapy

Jill Russell

Licensed Speech and Language Pathologist/Oral-Motor Therapist



Helping Children Communicate

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Therapies Provided for Communication Disorders

Articulation Disorders: Difficulties with the way sounds are formed and put together usually characterized by substituting one sound for another (tar for car), omitting a sound (poon for spoon), or distorting a sound (yeth for yes).

Oral Facial Myofunctional

Disorders (OMD): An abnormal swallow pattern, commonly referred to as "Tongue Thrust". OMD therapy focuses on the elimination of thumb and finger sucking and tongue thrust swallow behavior. These children have difficulties with tongue and oral muscle movement, speech, swallowing, chewing, and crowded bite or lip closure due to changes caused by prolonged thumb sucking and a tongue thrust swallow.



Hearing screenings are available

Therapies Provided (continued)

Oral-Motor Weakness / Abnormal

Sensitivities: Poor tongue, lip or jaw muscle tone and strength can lead to speech and/or feeding difficulties. Some children experience sensory issues related to their speech disorder. These children may be hypersensitive (overly sensitive to oral stimuli such as specific tastes, textures) or hyposensitive (an underreaction to oral stimulus – these children crave extra stimuli such as spicy or crunchy foods, or stuff food into their mouths for the needed stimulus). Therapy focuses on normalizing oral sensitivities as well as improving muscle tone and function.

Language Delays/Disorders: A slowness in the development of the vocabulary and grammar. By having an evaluation, your child's skills can be assessed and compared to typical developmental milestones. Language therapy focuses on building imitation skills and can involve use of sign language. Children do develop at different rates; what is important is that the child shows continuous language growth.

Individual treatment plans are designed to meet the specific needs of each child. Treatment can include audio taped sessions, video taped pre- and post-therapy analysis, auditory amplification, computer software programs, direct/indirect parent participation, and much more!

Contact Gresham Speech Therapy today to schedule an appointment for your child!

Gresham Speech Therapy Mission

- Provide speech and language therapy to children to ensure overall communicative success
- Stimulate preschool "readiness" skills: listening, language skills, vocabulary, grammar, phonological and phonemic awareness, print awareness
- Build self-esteem and self-confidence in all patients
- Provide a relaxed and supportive environment
- Eliminate frustration due to the inability to communicate effectively

About Jill Russell:

Jill received her bachelor's degree from University of Portland in 1992 in Elementary Education. She received her master's degree in 1997 in Speech and Hearing Sciences from Portland State University. Jill has her CCC, Certificate of Clinical Competence from the American Speech-Language and Hearing Association. She also has an Oregon Teaching License, and State of Oregon Speech Pathology Licensure. In her spare time Jill enjoys hiking, mountain biking, cooking, quilting, running, and spending time with her husband Michael and son Grayson.