

PHONOLOGICAL PROCESSES



Phonological Processes are typical patterns of error used by children when they try to imitate adults as they are developing speech. Phonological Disorders occur when a child continues to make errors on sound patterns or sound blends beyond the age when other typically developing children have stopped or when the processes are used much differently than normal.

SUBSTITUTION	What's happening?	Example	Gone by Age
Stopping	A fricative (s, z, f, v, th's, h, sh, and zh as in measure) is replaced with a stop (b, p, d, t, g, k).	/pat/ for /fat/ /tear/ for /share/	f, s by 3; v, z by 3 1/2; sh, ch, j by 4 1/2, th by 5
Deaffrication	An affricate (ch, dz as in judge) is replaced with a stop (b, p, d, t, g, k) or fricative (s, z, f, v, th's, h, sh, and zh as in measure).	/tear/ for /chair/ /sop/ for /chop/	4 yrs
Fronting	A velar or palatal sound (k, g) is replaced with an alveolar sound (t, d, s).	/top/ for /cop/ /doh/ for /go/	3.5 yrs
Depalatalization	A palatal fricative (sh, and zh as in measure) is replaced with an alveolar fricative (s, z).	/tek/ for /check/ /dane/ for /Jane/	5 yrs
Backing	An alveolar sound (t, d, s) is replaced with a velar or palatal sound (k, g).	/kop/ for /top/ /gime/ for /dime/	Typically seen in more severe phonological delays.
Gliding	A liquid sound (r, l) is replaced with a glide sound (w, y).	/wing/ for /ring/ /yeef/ for /leaf/	5 yrs
Vocalization	A syllabic liquid is replaced with a vowel. *This is also referred to as Vowelization.	/abuh/ for /able/ /apo/ for /paper/	---

SYLLABLE STRUCTURE	What's happening?	Example	Gone by Age
Unstressed Syllable Deletion	The syllable with the least amount of stress is not said.	/medo/ for /tomato/ /nana/ for /banana/	4 yrs
Reduplication	The syllable of a target word is repeated which creates a multi-syllabic word form. Can be *Total or **Partial.	*/baba/ for /bottle/ **/bada/ for /bottle/	2 1/2 yrs
Dimunization	An "-ee" and sometimes a consonant + "-ee" to a target word.	/cup-ee/ for /cup/ /book-ee/ for /book/	----
Epenthesis	An unstressed vowel, usually "uh", is said between two consonants.	/cup-uh/ for /cup/ /puh-late/ for /plate/	----
Final Consonant Deletion	A consonant or consonant cluster is left off the end of a word. Can happen on words that end w/ a vowel or consonant.	/ma/ for /mom/ /boo/ for /books/	3 yrs 3 mos
Initial Consonant Deletion	The first single consonant or consonant cluster at the beginning of a word is not said.	/own/ for /phone/ /indo/ for /window/	Typically seen in more severe phonological delays.
Cluster Reduction	Some or all parts of a cluster are deleted or substituted. * Can be *Total or **Partial.	*/op/ for /stop/ **/top/ for /stop/	3 1/2 yrs

ASSIMILATION	What's happening?	Example	Gone by Age
Labial Assimilation	A sound is changed to a labial sound (b, p, m, w) because of another labial sound in a word. Can be *Total or **Partial.	*/bub/ for /bup/ **/bup/ for /bug/	3 yrs
Velar Assimilation	A non-velar sound is changed to a velar (k, g, ng) sound. Can be *Total or **Partial.	*/kuck/ for /cup/ **/kug/ for /cup/	3 yrs
Nasal Assimilation	A non-nasal sound is changed to a nasal because of another nasal sound in the word. Can be *Total or **Partial.	*/mom/ for /mop/ **/mon/ for /mop/	3 yrs
Alveolar Assimilation	A non-alveolar sound is changed to an alveolar sound (t, d, n, l, s, z). Can be *Total or **Partial.	*/tot/ for /top/ **/tod/ for /top/	3 yrs
Prevocalic Voicing	A voiceless sound that comes before a vowel is changed to a voiced sound.	/den/ for /ten/ /bie/ for /pie/	6 yrs
Postvocalic Voicing	A voiced stop, fricative, or affricate, that follows a vowel is changed to a voiceless sound (devoiced).	/pick/ for /pig/ /tuck/ for /tug/	3 yrs