

Speech and language pathologists

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GRAPHISM AND ILLUSTRATIONS

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Why be referred to a Speech and language pathologist?

These language difficulties can :

- Pass unnoticed; even a child who talks can have important difficulties.
- Affect their learning in school.
- Affect their social and relational development.
- Be masked by a behavior problem or general avoidance

Children who present persistent language problems are more at risk to develop mental health problems in adolescence.

(Yew & al., 2013)

Language disorders can be found concomitant with...

- Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder;
- Developmental Coordination Disorder;
 - Behavior Problems;
- Oppositional Defiant Disorder;
- Autism Spectrum Disorder;
 - Anxiety Disorders;
- Depression and Affective Disorders;
 - Learning Disorders;
 - Etc.



SPEECH AND LANGUAGE

Therapy in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

Did you know?

Over **50 %** of children who are referred to Child Psychiatry have speech and language problems.
(Cohen & al., 1998)

Approximately **6 %** of the population presents with Language Disorders.
(Cohen & al., 1998)



Ask

the advice of a professional if a child exhibits the following signs

- Does not understand well instructions and explanations;
- Cannot explain something in a coherent manner;
- Becomes angry if he is not understood;
 - Searches for his words;
- Has difficulty producing sounds and organising his words in a sentence;
 - Reads well, but does not understand what was read;
 - Has problems learning;
- Presented a delay in language at an early age;
- Has difficulty locating himself in time and space.



Language Evaluation

A Speech Language Pathologist is a specialist who determines if language is developing well.

He evaluates :

Comprehension

(understands the words, the instructions and the stories, etc.)

Expression

(being able to be understood, tell a story, give explanations, etc.)

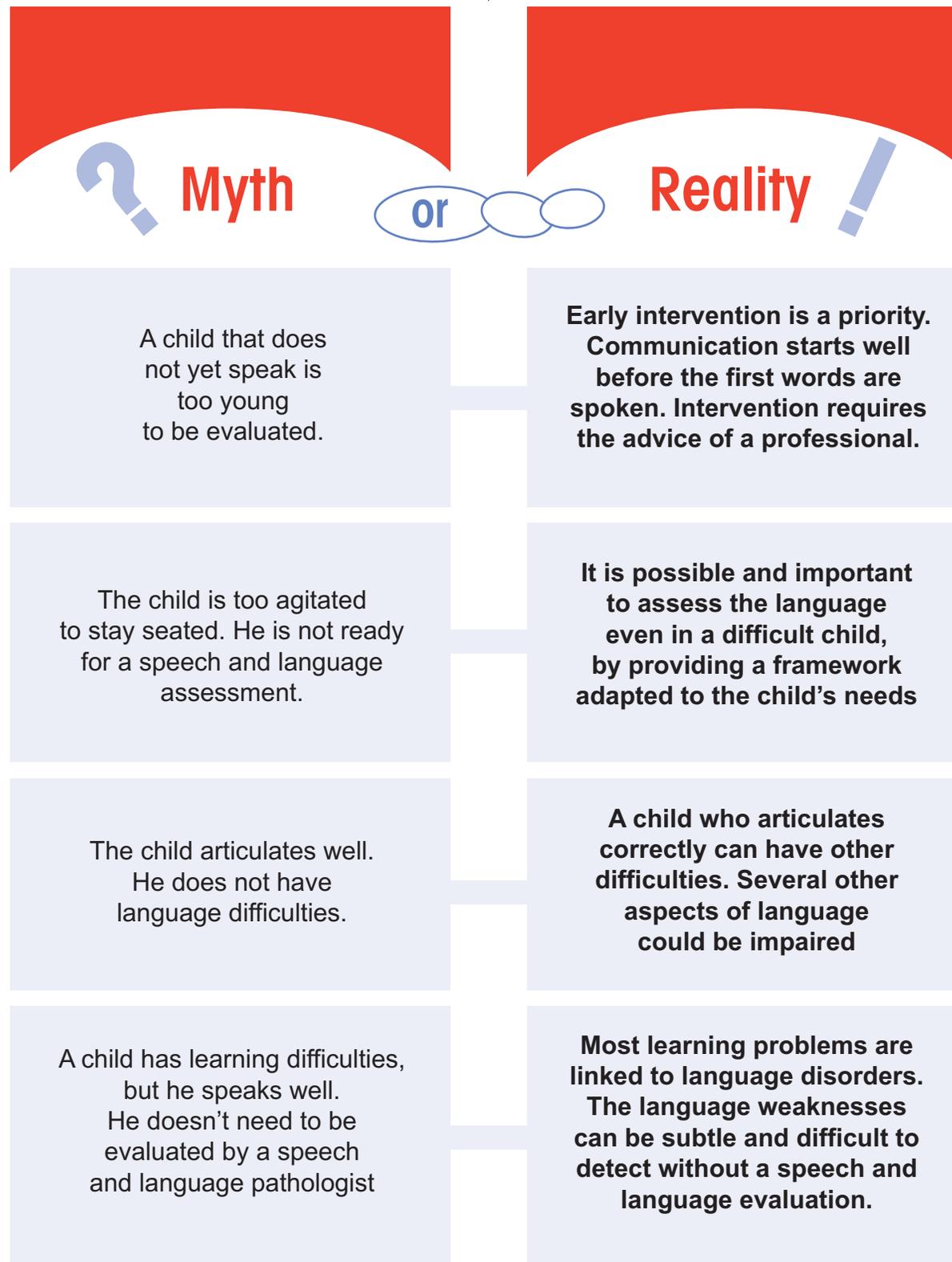
Communication

(being able to manage a conversation, to socialize and to express emotions)

Written language

(reading, understanding texts, spelling, composing texts, etc.)

An evaluation in speech and language determines how the child uses their own language to communicate, understand and socialize.



Language problems : the invisible handicap



Intervention

Speech and language intervention starts with identifying individualized ways for the child and his entourage to improve their functioning in different life situations.

Therefore, better equipped to reflect and comprehend with the help of language, the child will feel more in control of his own behaviors and emotions.

The work of a speech and language pathologist is done in collaboration with the family and other professionals.