

Eau Claire Area School District Speech/Language Department 500 Main Street Eau Claire, WI 54701

Speech Sound Decision Making Guide

This is to be used as a guideline in determining the direction to take (i.e., home program or immediate referral)

3-Year-Olds	
 If Not Stimulable, Errors Indicating Referral Deletion of early developing sounds (p,b,m,n,d,t,f,h,w,j(y) ("water" → "wa-wa") Final Consonant Deletion ("boat" → "boa_") Initial Consonant Deletion ("sun" → "_un") Stopping ("sun" → "tun") Glottal Replacement/Backing ("cow" → "how") Lateral Distortion of Sibilants (always considered atypical) 	 Developmental Errors ** Indicating Home Program/Tier 2 Unstressed syllable reduction ("telephone" → "tel-phone") Cluster Reduction ("spoon" → "_poon") Fronting of velars ("go" → "do") or palatals ("shoe" → "sue") Prevocalic Voicing ("peach" → beach") Gliding of Liquids ("love" → "wove" or "rock" → "wock") Vowel R Distortions ("bird" → "boyd") Dental Simplifications ("with" → "wif" or "thumb" → "dum") Deaffrication ("cheese" → "sheese" or "jump" → "zhump") Frontal Distortion of Sibilants (frontal lisp)
4 to 6 Year-Olds	
 If Not Stimulable, Errors Indicating Referral Any error pattern noted above plus: Syllable Reduction ("basket" → "bœ-") Any consonant deletion ("daddy" → "da_ y") Fronting of Velars and Palatals ("go" → "do"/ "shoe" → "sue") Cluster Reduction ("spoon" → "_poon") Vowel Distortions ("dœd" → "dad") Lateral Distortion of Sibilants 	 Developmental Errors ** Indicating Home Program/Tier 2 Gliding of Liquids ("love" → "wove" or "rock" → "wock") Vowel R Distortions ("bird" → "boyd") Dental Simplifications ("with" → "wif" or "thumb" → "dum") Frontal Distortion of Sibilants (frontal lisp)
7 Year-Olds	
If Not Stimulable, Errors Indicating Referral Any error existing at the end of first grade 	 Developmental Errors ** Indicating Home Program/Tier 2 If errors are stimulable, may try home programming prior to a referral
	**These errors may be developmental. However, multiple samples may be needed to determine if maturation will result in spontaneous normalization of these sounds.

Source: Missouri Speech-Language-Hearing Association <u>http://www.showmemsha.org/normative_sound.htm</u> Speech and Language Impairments Assessment and Decision Making: Technical Assistance Guide, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, February 2003.