



All about the /TS/ sound

- The /TS/ is made by tapping the tongue tip up to the bump behind your top front teeth and then keeping the air flowing while moving your tongue down slightly.
- The /TS/ sound does not occur at the beginning of words in English.
- In English grammar /TS/ marks the plural form of a word ending with “t”. Children start using plural “s” between ages 2 and 3 years.
- /TS/ is also the marker for the singular verb form (He pets the dog. She pets the cat.). Children learn to use this grammatical form between ages 3.5 and 5 years.

Some common errors for the /TS/ sound

- Children omit or leave out the /s/ at the end of the word.

Awareness to develop a child’s recognition of the /TS/ sound in everyday conversations

- Emphasize the /TS/ sound in your speech.
Example: Parent: “They have two pets, a cat and a dog. Pets has a /ts/ sound. Listen, petsss.”
- Emphasize /TS/ words within your child’s speech.
Example: Child: “Turn light off.” Parent: “Yes, the lightsss are on.” “We need to turn the lights off.”

Cue child’s production of /TS/ using corrective feedback strategies in everyday conversations

Child says: “boat” (for boats)

Adult responds with a strategy that best fits the moment:

Provide a good Model of the /TS/ by saying the word again slowly and clearly: “Boats.”

Provide a Visual Cue: Wiggle your index finger as you pull it from your lips to give a visual cue while emphasizing the /TS/ sound. “Boatsss.”

Provide a Verbal Cue: “Keep that air moving. Watch me, boatsss.”

Provide Feedback: “I didn’t hear the ssssss when you said boatsss.”

Use a Communication Breakdown technique: Do you mean just one boat or two boatsss?”

Target Sound Practice designed to give children many opportunities to say the /TS/ correctly

Learning speech sounds takes practice. The speech/language pathologist will assign one targeted speech sound for the child to work on each week. Find a quiet, consistent time each day to practice with the child.

Activity One: Awareness Activities for /TS/ during Target Sound Practice

- Use the Listening List (below) to heighten awareness of the /TS/ before target sound practice sessions.

Activity Two: Target Sound Practice for /TS/ with words and picture cards

- Use the Target Sound Picture Cards (next page) and activities to give the child many opportunities to practice saying the /TS/ sound correctly in words. Provide the child with feedback on how he/she is doing as they practice (e.g. “Great Job!”, “That was close, say it again after me.”)

Cueing strategies for /TS/ during Target Sound Practice

Child says: “ant” (for ants)

- Say, “Let’s try that again.” “Antsss.”

- Point to your mouth. Say “Watch me. Antsss.”

- Wiggle your index finger as you pull it from your lips to give a visual cues to emphasize the /S/ sound

Listening List /TS/ at the End of Words

Say these words to your child. Have them watch and listen without repeating you.

fits	fruits	spots	sheets
gates	fight <u>s</u>	votes	pet <u>s</u>
route <u>s</u>	light <u>s</u>	bite <u>s</u>	nut <u>s</u>



Target Sound Practice Cards

ants



boots



cats



bats



pots



boats



ants



boots



cats



bats



pots



boats





Carrying over Practice to other Times of the Day

Cut apart the cards below. Put these cards in different places in your home, in the child's daycare and/or school. This allows the child practice throughout the day and helps remind us the importance of using good speech skills all the time, not just at practice time. It also helps transfer correct productions into other environments, with other people, and in other word contexts. Examples of places to put these cards are:

on the bathroom mirror
on the refrigerator
in the car during travel

on his/her cubbie at daycare/school
on the doorway leaving the classroom
on his/her pillow to say before bed

<p>Ask me to say these words: cats pots boats boots</p>	<p>Ask me to say these words: cats pots boats boots</p>
<p>Ask me to say these words: cats pots boats boots</p>	<p>Ask me to say these words: cats pots boats boots</p>
<p>Ask me to say these words: cats pots boats boots</p>	<p>Ask me to say these words: cats pots boats boots</p>
<p>Ask me to say these words: cats pots boats boots</p>	<p>Ask me to say these words: cats pots boats boots</p>



Child's Name: _____

Date: _____

SOUND PROBE - TS at the end of words

Please complete this after you have finished the entire home program with your child. You will complete a different sound probe for each set of target words you were given. This will give us an idea of how well the target sounds transferred to words that were not practiced by your child.

Instructions:

- Say these words as naturally as possible to your child
- Have your child repeat these words after you
- Listen only for the target sounds that were practiced
- Check the appropriate box next to each word

	Correct	Incorrect
B<u>I</u>TES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
J<u>E</u>TS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
L<u>O</u>TS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
P<u>I</u>TS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
M<u>E</u>ATS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Use this area to provide specific comments or questions about progress: