



All about the /PS/ sound

- The /PS/ is made by puffing air through lightly closed lips and then pulling the tongue tip up to the bump behind your top teeth. Keep the air flowing while you move your tongue.
- The /PS/ sound does not occur at the beginning of words in English.
- In English grammar, /PS/ marks the plural form of a word ending with “p”. Children start using plural “s” between ages 2 and 3 years.
- /PS/ is also the marker for the singular verb form (He sleepss. She sleepss. It sleepss). Children learn to use this grammatical form between ages 3.5 and 5 years.

Some common errors for the /PS/ sound

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

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

- Emphasize the /PS/ sound in your speech
Example: Parent: “We both have blue cups. Hey, cups has a /ps/ sound. Listen, cups.”
- Emphasize /PS/ words within your child’s speech
Example: Child: “Three caps.” Parent: “Let’s count caps. One-two-three caps.”

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

Child says: “cap” (for caps)

Adult responds with a strategy that best fits the moment:

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

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

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

Provide Feedback: “I didn’t hear the sssss when you said caps.”

Use a Communication Breakdown technique: “One cap or two caps?”

Target Sound Practice designed to give children many opportunities to say the /PS/ 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 /PS/ during Target Sound Practice

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

Activity Two: Target Sound Practice for /PS/ 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 /PS/ 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 /PS/ during Target Sound Practice

Child says: “mop” (for mops)

- Say, “Let’s try that again. Mops”
- Point to your mouth and say, “Watch me say it, mops.”
- Drag your index finger from wrist to elbow to give a visual cue to hold out the /s/ sound

Listening List Final /PS/

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

rips	ships	leaps	scraps
slopes	chips	hops	zips
keeps	drops	tops	hips



Target Sound Practice Cards

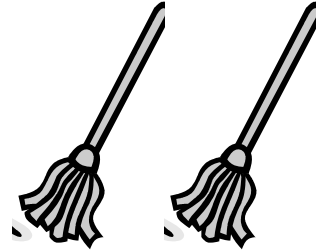
pipes



ropes



mops



cups



lips



oops



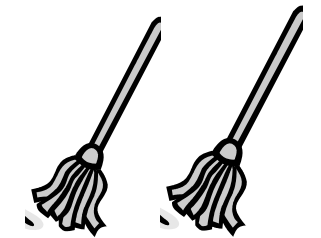
pipes



ropes



mops



cups



lips



oops





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: cups oops mops lips</p>	<p>Ask me to say these words: cups oops mops lips</p>
<p>Ask me to say these words: cups oops mops lips</p>	<p>Ask me to say these words: cups oops mops lips</p>
<p>Ask me to say these words: cups oops mops lips</p>	<p>Ask me to say these words: cups oops mops lips</p>
<p>Ask me to say these words: cups oops mops lips</p>	<p>Ask me to say these words: cups oops mops lips</p>



Child's Name: _____

Date: _____

SOUND PROBE - PS 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
H <u>OP</u> S	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
M <u>AP</u> S	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
L <u>AP</u> S	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
T <u>IP</u> S	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
L <u>OO</u> P <u>S</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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