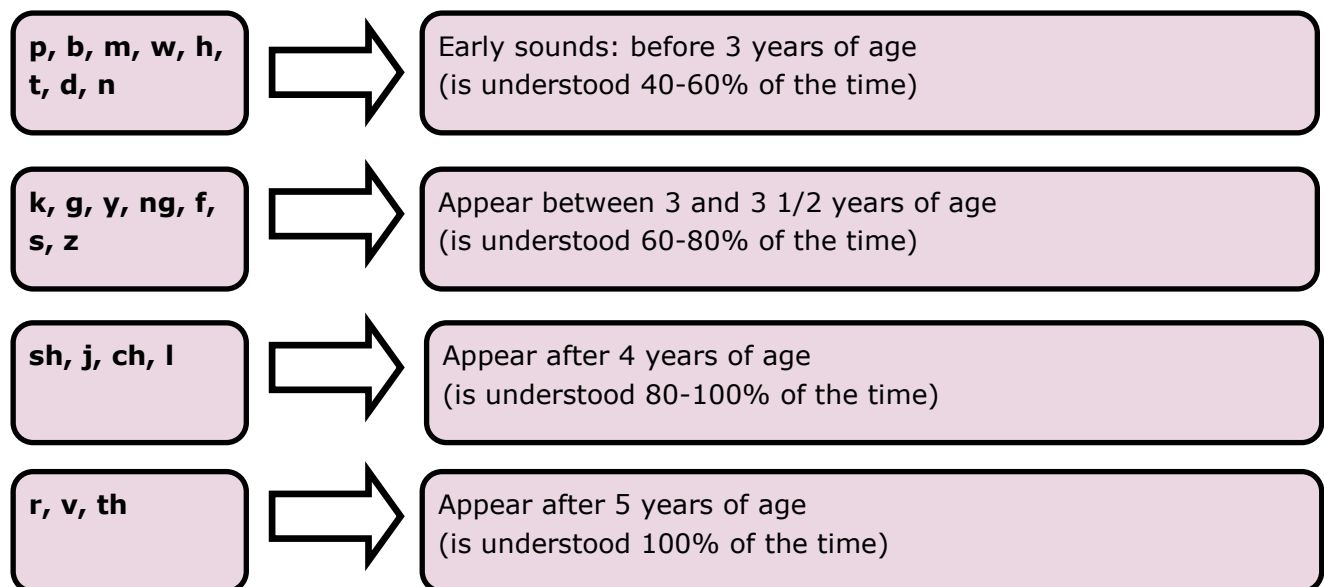


SPEECH SOUND DEVELOPMENT

Speech sounds develop gradually from birth to a child's seventh or eighth year. It is best to think of speech sound development in terms of age ranges versus specific ages. As a parent, you should be able to understand your child better as he gets older and his ability to use a sound correctly improves. Remember, even if a child is able to use a sound in a word, he may not be able to use it yet in conversation.

Typical Pattern of Speech Sound Development:



Early sound milestones

By 12 months, babies should:

- Babble using different syllables (baba; mada);
- Use vowels AND consonants to babble and make up words (5-6 different sounds);

Strategies to help your child

- Speak clearly. Repeat sounds, words and sentences that your child says.
- Encourage him to watch your mouth by being face-to-face.
- Make silly sounds with your baby (i.e. choo-choo, animal sounds).
- Use nursery rhymes and songs.
- Ask her to show you when you don't understand.
- Repeat what he has said. This helps him know that you understood and are listening.

For more information visit
www.onekidsplace.ca