

Spoken Language

Language is the ability to understand and respond to others as a means of communication. It is comprised of both receptive and expressive language. Receptive language is the ability to understand or interpret the words being said. Expressive language is the use of words to express thoughts, ideas, wants and needs. Impairments in the area of receptive language would appear as problems understanding word meanings, decreased vocabulary and the inability to follow directions. Impairments in expressive language exhibit as the inability to use words appropriately in context, with appropriate grammar and word order.

"According to American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, language is made up of a set of rules that include word meanings, combining sounds to make words, putting words together in correct grammatical format, and using appropriate word combinations for specific social situations. Speech is the oral form of language."

Helpful Links:

<http://www.asha.org/public/speech/development/schoolsFAQ.htm#Top>

http://www.kidsource.com/LDA/spoken_language.html

http://www.childspeech.net/uv_h.html

<http://www.kidsource.com/ASHA/letstalk33.html>