

Tips for Parents & Teachers

HOW YOU CAN HELP CHILDREN WHO STUTTER

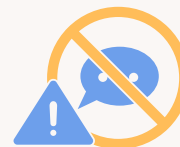


BE PATIENT

- Allow the child to take their time during a moment of stuttering
- Avoid suggestions like “slow down” and “relax”
- Wait for the child to finish their ideas

DON'T INTERRUPT

- Children who stutter find it easier to talk when they are not interrupted and have their listener's full attention
- Encourage a home and classroom culture of taking turns and listening



DON'T FINISH THEIR SENTENCES/IDEAS

- Wait a few seconds after the child finishes speaking before you start to speak
- This tells the child you're listening
- It also slows down the overall pace of the conversation which encourages a slower rate of speaking

DISCUSS ACCOMMODATIONS WITH THE STUDENT AND FAMILY

- This will be different for each child but can include things like:
 - Allowing them to share ideas when they feel most comfortable vs. calling on them abruptly during large class discussions
 - Providing additional time for verbal presentations



ESTABLISH AN ENVIRONMENT OF ACCEPTANCE

- Encourage the child to talk about stuttering
- Stuttering is ok and will not “just go away”
- Discuss stuttering in a positive light and encourage acceptance from the child and their peers at home and at school