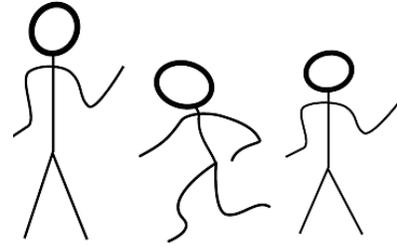


By 5 years, your child should:

- follow group directions—*all the boys get a toy*
- describe past, present and future events in detail
- seek to please his/her friends
- understand directions with *if...then*—*If you're wearing runners, then line up for gym*
- show increasing independence in friendship—may visit neighbour by him/herself
- use almost all the sounds of the language with few to no errors
- know all the letters of the alphabet
- identify the sounds at the beginning of some words—*Pop starts with the 'puh' sound*
- Use new and more complex words – *before/after, rough/smooth, easy/difficult, between/beside, same/different.*



If your child is having difficulty with any of the above, contact your **Child's Teacher or private Speech-Language Pathologist** **Preschool Speech and Language** does not accept referrals for this age group.



Children this age like it when you:

- ❖ Talk about numbers and quantity of objects—a lot/a little, more/less, one/many.
- ❖ Talk to your child about the print he sees every day.
- ❖ Ask your child to predict what will happen next – *What do you think will happen when Sam opens his birthday present?* Explain the reasons behind choices – *Why do we need to wear our coats today?*
- ❖ Take turns telling each other stories and using the pictures in books – children like to hear you talk and then want a turn to create their own version of the story. Try imaginative scenarios like playing restaurant in the kitchen or spaceship in the basement. Help your child dress up for their part.
- ❖ Let your child help plan special events. Talk about what needs to be done before a birthday party, or how to get ready to go to the zoo. Ask your child *why* and *how* questions as you talk.
- ❖ Ask your child to help. He will enjoy helping you bake cookies, set the table, sort laundry, etc. Give him instructions and see if he can tell you the steps.