SPEECH vs. LANGUAGE

Speech and language go together, but they are not the same.

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SPEECH

Speech is how we produce words and sounds. It includes verbal communication as well as how clear we sound to others when we are talking.

LANGUAGE

Language is how we use words to communicate wants, needs, and ideas. It is what we speak, write, read, and understand, including by communicating through gestures, such as using body language or sign language.



Speech is the sounds that come out of the mouth in the form of words; it is the physical process of forming words using our mouths, lungs, vocal cords, lips, and tongue. Language is any system used to communicate meaning and to interact with others.

Did you know?

If your child is having trouble developing their speech or language skills, they may not be able to hear well. The ability to listen is necessary to receive and develop sounds for speech, language, and communication.

Children develop speech and language skills at different rates.

But, children usually develop certain skills by certain ages.

ScreenforSuccess

Is your child meeting their milestones?
Find your free developmental screening center
at screenforsuccess.org/regional-map!

Wyoming Department of Health Behavioral Health Division Screen for Success is brought to you by the Wyoming Department of Health and the Early Intervention and Education Program