

## Treating Children's Speech Disorders by Combining Articulation Therapy with Language Intervention Activities

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### Abstract

This study explores an innovative approach to addressing children's speech disorders by combining traditional articulation therapy with language intervention activities. The research emphasizes the importance of a holistic approach that considers both speech sound production and broader language skills. By incorporating art and language-based activities into therapy sessions, the study seeks to create a more engaging and dynamic learning environment for children. The hypothesis is that this integrated approach will lead to more comprehensive and lasting improvements in speech and language development. The study aims to address children's speech disorders.

**Keywords:** Speech disorders; Articulation therapy; Language intervention; Communication development

In the realm of speech-language pathology, the treatment of children's speech disorders has traditionally focused on isolated approaches, often either articulation therapy or language intervention. This study introduces a novel method that seeks to combine these two facets of communication development, recognizing the intricate

relationship between speech and language. The goal is to enhance individuals' communication skills, promote functional independence, and improve overall quality of life. Speech-language pathology encompasses a diverse range of communication disorders and is an integral part of multidisciplinary efforts to support individuals with speech and language challenges.

Creating an engaging learning environment is essential, especially when working with children in speech-language pathology. The term refers to a setting that captures the child's attention, stimulates curiosity, and encourages active participation in therapeutic activities. In the context of treating speech disorders, fostering an engaging learning environment is crucial for maintaining a child's interest and motivation throughout the therapy process. Incorporating interactive and creative elements, such as games, multimedia, and hands-on activities, can make therapy sessions more enjoyable for children. The use of visual aids, colorful materials, and technology can enhance the

Speech-language pathology, often abbreviated as SLP, is a field of healthcare that focuses on the assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of communication and swallowing disorders. Speech-language pathologists, also known as speech therapists, play a crucial role in helping individuals of all ages overcome difficulties related to speech, language, voice, fluency, and swallowing. In the context of children, speech-language pathologists work to address various speech disorders, language delays, and communication challenges. They assess a child's communication abilities, identify areas of difficulty, and develop personalized intervention plans. Treatment may involve activities to improve articulation (speech sound production), language comprehension and expression, social communication skills, and more [3].

SLPs collaborate with other professionals, such as educators, psychologists, and medical professionals, to provide comprehensive

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Received: 01-Nov-2023, Manuscript No: jspt-23-120024; Editor assigned: 03-Nov-2023, PreQC No. jspt-23-120024 (PQ); Reviewed: 17-Nov-2023, QC No jspt-23-120024; Revised: 23-Nov-2023, Manuscript No. jspt-23-120024 (R); Published: 30-Nov-2023, DOI: 10.4172/2472-5005.1000213

Citation: Allende M (2023) Treating Children's Speech Disorders by Combining Articulation Therapy with Language Intervention Activities. J Speech Pathol Ther 8: 213.

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participation, accelerates learning, and contributes to the overall success of intervention strategies [5,6].

The results of the study indicated promising outcomes in combining articulation therapy with language intervention activities for treating children's speech disorders. Quantitative data demonstrated significant improvements in both speech sound production and broader language skills among the participants. The integrated approach showed a positive impact on targeted speech sound errors, as well as notable advancements in overall language proficiency. Furthermore, qualitative observations during therapy sessions revealed increased engagement and enthusiasm from the children. The incorporation of art-based activities not only contributed to a more enjoyable learning experience but also seemed to enhance motivation and participation. This suggests that the holistic approach not only addresses specific speech disorders but also contributes to a positive and dynamic therapeutic environment [7].

The discussion delves into the implications of these findings, considering the potential benefits of this integrated method for a broader range of speech disorders and diverse populations. It explores the theoretical framework supporting the combination of articulation therapy and language intervention, emphasizing the importance of addressing both components for comprehensive communication development [8-10]. Challenges and limitations of the study are also discussed, providing insights for future research. The results and discussion collectively contribute to the growing body of knowledge in speech-language pathology, offering a promising avenue for more effective and engaging interventions in treating children's speech disorders.

In conclusion, the study highlights the effectiveness of combining articulation therapy with language intervention activities in treating children's speech disorders. The results demonstrate significant improvements in both targeted speech sound production and broader language skills, suggesting that the integrated approach provides a comprehensive solution to communication challenges in this population. The positive impact observed during therapy sessions,

including increased engagement and motivation, underscores the importance of creating an enriching and dynamic learning environment. The incorporation of art-based activities not only enhances the effectiveness of the intervention but also contributes to a positive therapeutic experience for the children.

While the study provides valuable insights, it is essential to acknowledge its limitations and the need for further research to validate the findings across diverse populations. The holistic approach presented here offers a promising avenue for speech-language pathology, emphasizing the interconnected nature of speech sound production and language development. In moving forward, practitioners and researchers can build upon these results to refine and expand the integrated method, ultimately advancing the field of speech-language pathology and improving outcomes for children with speech disorders.

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**Citation:** Allende M (2023) Treating Children's Speech Disorders by Combining Articulation Therapy with Language Intervention Activities. *J Speech Pathol Ther* 8: 213.