

## CHILD SPEECH & LANGUAGE ASSESSMENT

### Spring 2021 Community Service Program

This May and June we are offering 3 spots for a preschool or school-age communication assessment with our regular professional fees waived. Assessments are available for speech, expressive language, auditory comprehension, fluency (e.g., stuttering), and/or reading and writing.

The assessments will be conducted by an SLP graduate intern with 100% supervision by a licensed SLP. A detailed written report will be provided.

Appointments are available on Wednesdays only and are in English.

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# Shoreline Speech Therapy

## PAEDIATRIC COMMUNICATION ASSESSMENTS

### What is an 'assessment'?

The purpose of an **assessment** is to identify/diagnose or rule out communication delays/disorders. An assessment provides a profile of communication strengths and difficulties and prognosis for improvement with treatment. If treatment is recommended, an assessment informs treatment planning and recommendations.



Samples of tools using during the assessment of children's language (left) and speech (right).

An assessment can require 1-3 hours of a client's time depending on the purpose of the evaluation. For every hour of testing with the client, the SLP requires up to two hours for analysis, documentation, and report writing. The final written report is multiple pages and contains information both for the child's parents and other professionals (e.g., teachers, doctors, other SLPs).

### What happens during an assessment?

Intake and history:

1. The SLP obtains and documents the informed consent of the child's legal guardian(s) for the evaluation. If someone other than the legal guardian(s) is bringing the child for their appointment (e.g., their grandparent), this consent can be provided in advance. *The assessment cannot be done without consent.*
2. The guardian(s) will provide basic contact information (e.g., address).
3. The child's guardian(s) provides some information about language milestones and family history of speech and language difficulties.



Hearing screening:

1. The SLP looks briefly in the child's ears.
2. The child listens to several beeps and indicates (in an age-appropriate way) if they have heard them.



Speech and language (depending on age):

1. The SLP listens to any concerns the child's guardian(s) may have.
2. The SLP observes the child's behaviours.
3. The SLP looks in the child's mouth.
4. The child is shown plates of images and asked to point to or name specific pictures.
5. The child answers questions.
6. The SLP listens to what the child says during their interaction and makes note of pronunciation, grammar, and any stuttering.



After the appointment:

1. After the appointment, the SLP will analyze the data and record the results in a written report.
2. The SLP will review the results of the evaluation with the guardian(s) and send them the written report.



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