Speech & Language Information for 5th Grade

How Does a Student Qualify?

According to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction: Students can receive speech/language services in several different areas. In all areas, the delay must significantly affect the student’s educational performance or social or emotional development.

* Language: In order to qualify for speech/language services to address language delays, students must receive scores at or below 1.75 standard deviations (SD) on formal test measures. Further, the language delay must negatively impact oral communication.
* Speech or Sound Production: In order to qualify, a student must perform at or below 1.75 SD on a test of articulation or be unable to produce speech sounds when 90% of his or her peers are able to produce the sound. These delays must also negatively impact the intelligibility (clarity) of the student’s speech.
* Voice: Vocal impairment not due to short-term factors.
* Fluency: To qualify for services, the student must display speaking characteristics of a fluency disorder, such as part or whole-word repetition and prolongation of sounds.

What is Expected of a 5th Grade Student?

According to guidelines set by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association: By the end of 5th grade, students should be able to do the following:

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| Speaking   * Make planned oral presentations appropriate to the audience * Maintain eye contact and use gestures, facial expressions, and appropriate voice during group presentations * Participate in class discussions across subject areas * Summarize main points * Report about information gathered in group activities | Understanding/Reading   * Learn meanings of unfamiliar words through knowledge of root words, prefixes, and suffixes * Prioritize information * Describe development of character and plot * Describe characteristics of poetry * Be able to support opinions * Understand and use vocabulary effectively |
| Listening   * Listen and draw conclusions in subject area learning activities | |

References:

American Speech-Language Hearing Association. “Your Child’s Communication Development: Kindergarten Through Fifth Grade.” Your Child’s Communication Development. American Speech- Language Hearing Association, n.d. Web. 20 Feb. 2014

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. “Speech and Language Impairments Assessment and Decision Making Technical Assistance Guide,” Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, February 2003.