

Dear _____

My name is _____

About My Communication Skills

I have a Receptive and Expressive Language Delay/Disorder. This means that I can find it difficult to understand what people are saying, and to express myself.

My Strengths

Some things I am really good at are:

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About My Receptive Language Difficulties

Having receptive language difficulties may make some tasks more difficult. Some things that may be tricky for me are:

- Following multi-part directions
- Understanding concepts like *before, after, first, last, behind, beside, in front of*, etc.
- Retaining and recalling information from stories and books
- Following instructions that are new or novel
- Knowing what some words mean
- Understanding complex sentences involving words like *because, but, so, instead, although*, etc.
- Understanding idioms and metaphors
- Listening when other people are talking

About My Expressive Language Difficulties

Having an expressive language delay may make it more difficult for me to communicate with you and my classmates. Some things that may be tricky for me are:

- Naming items or objects
- Retaining new vocabulary
- Describing things in detail

- Producing longer sentences with lots of information
- Using correct word structure changes, like plurals, tenses and pronouns
- Using correct grammar in my spoken and written sentences
- Explaining and reasoning
- Formulating sentences quickly
- Retelling stories

Classroom Strategies for Success

Some ideas and strategies that may help to support my ability to understand and follow along in my classroom are:

- Place me and my desk in a position that faces the main teaching area of the classroom
- Seat me next to a peer who will be able to help me when I have not understood something
- Ensure you have my attention and eye contact before giving instructions
- Break tasks down into single steps
- Give me instructions one-on-one whenever possible
- Combine spoken instructions with non-verbal cues (like pictures or gestures) to help me following along with instructions
- Check in with me during tasks to ensure that I have understood and am following your instructions

Some ideas and strategies that may help to support my ability to express myself in my classroom are:

- Give me plenty of time to have my turn in conversation and speaking tasks
- Give examples and model the types of responses you would like me to give during tasks to give me some extra help formulating mine
- Give me lots of chances to hear new vocabulary, and provide me with lots of ways to learn it (e.g. pictures, visuals, actions, songs, etc.)
- If I am having difficulty naming vocabulary we are learning, use prompts and cues to help me, like showing me pictures, starting the word for me (e.g. when after the word *subtraction*, say “sub...”), acting it out, etc.

My Speech Pathologist

My Speech Pathologist is:

Here are their contact details. Please feel free to contact them any time to find out more about what we’re working on, or if you would like any assistance in helping me with my communication success in the classroom.

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

I can’t wait to have a wonderful school year with you!