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Early Intervention is Critical for Communication Success.

James is a four-year-old child diagnosed with a hearing loss and severe phonological processing disorder which makes his speech very difficult to understand. James was fitted for hearing aids in July 2014 and has been receiving speech therapy services from the Charles E. and Geneva S. Scott Communication Disorders Clinic at ASU since August 2014. He has made tremendous progress in the last six months. James' family and teachers are excited about being able to understand him more.



Speech Sound Therapy.

The Hodson Cycle approach to the treatment of phonological disorders (Targeting Intelligible Speech, Hodson, 1991) is used in therapy with James. Phonological processes include patterns of speech errors such as deleting the last sound in words (saying ca for cat) or reducing consonant clusters (saying pay for play). The clinician adapts games to include the production of specific sounds several times during each activity.

James is given multiple opportunities to produce the target sounds in a naturalistic play setting. During therapy activities, the clinicians



The clinicians work closely with the audiologist in monitoring James' hearing aids. It is important that his aids are working properly during each therapy session to make sure James is hearing all of the sound productions.

model the correct production of the specific sounds in words and through intonation, encourage James to imitate. It is exciting to see all the progress James has made over the past six month in his expressive communication skills. We are grateful to be a part of the positive changes in his life.

Next newsletter...

The April newsletter will focus on therapy with a student who has special needs.

We offer our sincerest appreciation for the continued support of the Scottish Rite, without which we could not fulfill our mission.