



Speech Disability Considerations



There are many things that can cause difficulty with speech. Some examples are:

- Deafness
- Cerebral Palsy
- Stroke
- Head injury
- Intellectual disability



People with speech disabilities use a wide variety of ways to communicate:



A person with a speech disability may use a communication or letter board to which they point, Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC), or electronic communication devices, like tablets.



A person with a speech disability may also use a picture book or simply pencil and paper to communicate.

Interaction Tips

- If you have difficulty understanding someone, **let them know, and find a solution together** that allows you both to communicate.
- **Be patient** while the person is communicating.
- If a sign language interpreter is present, **face the person with the disability and speak directly to them**, not the interpreter.
- **Don't shout.**