

The month of May is nationally recognized as *Better Speech and Hearing Month* by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA).

For parents of children with speech-language disorders, it is an important time to look ahead to the coming school year and make sure their child has everything necessary to ensure success.

Investigate your school district's policy on Extended School Year (ESY). Schools obviously cannot provide services to all children during the summertime due to budget and personnel constraints. It is important to remember that ESY is meant to *maintain* skills, as opposed to helping children gain new skills. Most districts will only consider a child eligible for ESY if there is a great risk of regression of skills. It cannot hurt to try!

Take advantage of the knowledge and experience of your child's school speech therapist. Most speech therapists (and all good speech therapists) are thrilled to have motivated parents who are actively involved in their child's therapy. Your child's school therapist has a wealth of materials and activities that can be sent home for practice over the summer

Consider private therapy services to supplement school services. Summer provides an excellent opportunity for private therapy, as scheduling blocks open and children's time commitments become less intense. While private therapy can be costly, many facilities will work with parents to arrange a feasible therapy schedule.

What is Language? What is Speech?

What is language? What is Speech?

Language is made up of socially shared rules that include the following:

- What words mean; (look at the word "star" it can refer to a bright object in the night sky or a celebrity)
- How to make new words ;(friend, friendly, unfriendly)
- How to put words together; (what word combinations are best in what situations.)

Speech is the verbal means of communicating. Speech consists of the following:

- **Articulation:** How speech sounds are made. (Children must learn how to produce the "r" sound in order to say "rabbit" instead of "wabbit")
- **Voice:** Use of the vocal folds and breathing to produce sound. (The voice can be abused from overuse or misuse and can lead to hoarseness or loss of voice.)
- **Fluency:** The rhythm of speech. (Hesitations or stuttering can affect fluency.)

Jellybean Contest Winner

Congrats to Andrew S. for being the closest guess to how many jellybeans were in our jar. There were actually 246 jellybeans in the jar and Andrew's guess was 200!! Thank you to all who entered and anyone wanting some jellybeans now, just ask....we have lots left!!!!



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*John Flynn's
Children's Concert
Saturday, June 6th
2:00pm – 4pm
Modern Maturity Center*

Don't let your children miss this special concert by John Flynn. He is an amazing songwriter and musician who performs concerts nationally and recently sang The Star Spangled Banner at a Phillies playoff game. Tickets are only \$1.00 for children ages 6-17 and \$2.00 for adults. Children under six are free. All proceeds will benefit local programs for children with special needs in KENT COUNTY. You can also make a tax-deductible donation. Tickets are available at:

Rob Fox, CPA,

Sir Speedy

Ballet Theatre of Dover

Modern Maturity Center.

(See the flyer on our Bulletin Board for addresses).
For more information on John Flynn, please visit his website at johnflynn.net.

MOVIE NIGHT AT CDSLPL

Join us on Friday, May 29 at 6:00pm

We will have our 1st (hopefully of many) movie nights at CDSLPL. Bring a blanket, a pillow, and get ready to

Watch a great movie for children. We will supply drinks and treats for all movie-goers! Please alert us to any dietary needs or bring your own. A parent must be present. RSVP requested at (302) 674-3350

TURN YOUR TAX REFUND INTO GOLD!!

If you are expecting a tax refund this year, it can be worth its weight in gold if you donate at least a portion of it to the American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation. You'll not only support excellence in the training of communication sciences and disorders research that produces practical results in the prevention, assessment, and treatment of communication disorders, but you'll get a little back next year in the form of another deduction!

For example, if you file a single return on taxable income of \$50,000 and you donate \$1,000 of your tax refund to the ASHFoundation, your gift could be worth another \$250 in tax savings next year. If interested, you can donate online at www.ashfoundation.org or call 301-296-8704.



Children's Drawing Contest

ASHA (American Speech-Language-Hearing Association) is sponsoring a Drawing Contest for children age 3-19. Drawings must be submitted by an ASHA member and our SLP, Kati is a member. See Kati if you are interested in submitting an entry.

We look forward to helping your child improve his/her speech and language skills!