

## Strategies to support your child with speech sound difficulties

The following advice is given to help a child with speech sound difficulties:

- ✓ If you know the word the child has tried to say, say it back to them clearly, so they have a good model, with a slight emphasis on the error sound e.g. child: 'I found a tar' Adult: 'Yes you found a car'.
- ✓ React to what the child says, not how clearly they say it.
- ✓ Don't ask the child to repeat or say words they find difficult.
- ✓ Ask questions or say "show me" if you don't understand what the child has said.
- ✓ It is normal for a child to be able to produce a sound by itself, but not use it in words. This is because a child has to learn how and when to use the sound in their speech. Repeating words correctly back to the child is the best way to help.