

**What exactly does a
speech-language
pathologist do?**

Many of you have, or have had, at least one student in your classroom who receives speech-language therapy. But, do you know exactly what your SLP does? SLPs work on many different areas of communication with students, that may include:

- Helping students learn to pronounce sounds correctly, such as the R sound, or making sure the student says the final sound in words.
- Increasing students' vocabulary knowledge and usage.
- Helping students learn what words to use in what order and when to say them.
- Helping students with minimal speech find ways to communicate, such as by using computerized devices or a picture system.
- Helping students who stutter make their speech more fluent.
- Helping students who have difficulty with comprehension or answering questions.
- Helping students learn the unspoken social rules of communication.
- Helping students who struggle with getting their thoughts out in a coherent fashion, whether verbally or in writing.
- Helping students understand relationships between words and concepts, including such skills as comparing/contrasting, describing, defining, summarizing, etc.