

Tips & Tricks

L

How to make the /l/ sound

The /l/ sound is made by sticking the tongue tip just behind the front teeth, touching the alveolar ridge. The lips should be slightly open and not rounded. /l/ is a noisy sound; your voice is on when producing it.

Stuck getting started?

The most typical error with /l/ is substitution of /w/ for /l/ (wisten/listen, wike/like). For these type of errors, emphasize touching the tongue tip to the ridge behind the top teeth! Practicing with a mirror can be very in the beginning stages!

Remember the hierarchy! Practice first /l/ by itself, then in syllables (lee, lay, lie, lo, loo/eel, ayl, aisle, ohl, ool), followed by words and sentences.

Have some fun making your own lists of words that start with L or play I spy with things around you!

Minimal pairs!

Minimal pairs are pairs of words that are the same except for one sound. In articulation therapy, they use the incorrect production and the target sound and are an awesome way to increase awareness of errors and elicit correct productions.

Say the errored sound first, followed by the correct sound. Make it a game- not a *wake*, a *lake*!!

white/light	wake/lake	walk/lock
wink/link	weed/lead	wife/life
wizard/lizard	wait/late	waiter/later
wet/let	weather/leather	why/lie

Practicing for 5-10 minutes per day can help your child make steady progress. Find the time- in the car, at bathtime, at the supermarket! Language is everywhere!

Happy Practicing! -Ms Schue