

Speech

Children and adults with FASD also take longer to develop speech. They learn the different sounds later and also show relapses.

Articulation errors occur more frequently and persist longer, sometimes for a very long time in difficult tasks. Children with FASD make the same “mistakes,” but more frequently and for longer periods of time. (Terband, Spruit, Maassen, 2018) Problems with speaking and language can also lead to reading and spelling problems.

About Us

As a center of expertise in FASD and speech therapy we specialize in support, advice, diagnostics and therapy for people with FASD, their relatives, speech therapists, therapists, doctors, youth welfare services and everyone who is interested in the topic. We also offer workshops and training courses,



literature

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FASD & Speech Therapy Specialist Center
Georgstraße 53
49809 Lingen (Ems)

www.fasd-logo.com | info@fasd-logo.com

FASD & SPEECH LANGUAGE & FEEDING PROBLEMS

Speech, language and feeding problems in fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD)





Feeding

Many people with FASD have difficulty eating and drinking. Even in infancy, children with FASD have problems drinking, which often means they don't get enough food. Children with FASD often have a narrow upper lip and difficulty lifting their tongue, preventing them from creating the vacuum needed to get enough milk from the breast or bottle.

Older children, teenagers and adults also have the additional problem that the position of their teeth is often different and tooth development is delayed. (Blanck-Lubarsch, Dirksen, Feldmann et al. (2019)).

As a result, the chewing surfaces do not touch each other or touch each other less and the food cannot be chewed properly. It then becomes more difficult to swallow it.

Problems with sensitivity in the mouth area are also different.

Sometimes they are too sensitive, sometimes not sensitive enough. This can change from day to day, from child to child.

These factors combine to ensure that eating can take a very long time. A speech therapist can help you if all factors are taken into account.

Language

Approximately 90% of all children with FASD have speech and/or speech disorders (Church & Kaltenbach (1997). A majority has problems with language comprehension, although it often seems as if they understand everything. According to Popova, Lange, Shield, et al. (2016), 76.2% of children with FASD have expressive language disorders (problems expressing themselves) and 81.8% have receptive language disorders (generally only 7.4% in the USA) (language comprehension.)

Other problems in the area of language can be seen in:

- relational vocabulary
- understanding sayings and/or proverbs
- understanding tasks
- repeating and/or finishing sentences
- the word sequence (syllables and/or sounds are swapped)
- combining sentences

Language development takes longer and in many cases it is not possible to complete it completely.

