

# TALKTOOLS® ORAL PLACEMENT SCREENING FOR SPEECH AND FEEDING SKILL ASSESSMENT

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This screening is designed to assist in determining if a child or adult has placement and/or movement deficits associated with speech sound errors or feeding difficulties.

The screening may be used with any individual five years of age or older, as a typically developing five-year-old child can complete all the skills listed below. If your client fails any of the tasks in this screening, a complete Oral Placement/Movement Evaluation is recommended. To pass this screening a check mark must be placed in all boxes labeled "☐Pass." The information obtained in the Oral Placement/Movement Evaluation will then be used to generate a Program Plan. Since Oral Placement Therapy (OPT) is used in conjunction with traditional articulation and feeding therapy, the client's program plan should include goals and techniques in each of the following deficit areas: 1) Sensory, 2) Feeding, 3) Oral Placement Activities, and 4) Speech Production.

The following information will help you to understand why certain vowel sound placements are used in the directions:

1. Lip from Jaw Dissociation - /I/ position: Saying the /I/ (ih as in "it") sound will place the jaw in an open posture at the high jaw height. While maintaining this high jaw position the lips should be able to move without any jaw bone movement. If the client moves the jaw to achieve lip movement, the desired goal of lip from jaw dissociation has not been demonstrated.
2. Tongue from Jaw Dissociation - /a/ position: Saying the /a/ (ah) sound will place the jaw in an open posture at the low jaw height. While maintaining this low jaw position the tongue should be able to move without jaw bone movement. If the client moves the jaw to achieve tongue movement, the desired goal of tongue from jaw dissociation has not been demonstrated.

The directions for this screening may be given in one or both of the following manners as demonstrated on the DVD:

1. Oral/Verbal: Example: "Open your mouth, and say /I/. Then, without moving your jaw, say /m/." When the client has performed this activity instruct him/her to repeat the movements by saying, "say /I/" and wait for a response, "say /m/" and wait for a response, four additional times for a total of 5 times.
2. Imitation of Movement: Example: "Watch me and do what I do." Once the client's attention is achieved and he/she is watching your mouth, open your mouth to the /I/ position and then without moving your jaw say /m/. Repeat this sequence of movement a total of 5 times.



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This hierarchy was tested and validated by Quest Engineering Solutions (Billerica, MA.). For a copy of "Test Report #Q08024" please contact TalkTools Therapy

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Scoring the screening:

1. ☐ Pass - If the client is able to perform the task as described or demonstrated, place a check mark in the box marked "Pass." Example: If the client is able to close his/her lips with the jaw remaining in the // position, the goal of lip closure using Jaw-Lip Dissociation has been demonstrated.
2. ☐ Fail - If the client is unable to perform the task as described or demonstrated, place a check mark in the box marked "Fail." Example: If the client is unable to achieve lip closure or moves his/her jaw in association with lip closure, the goal of lip closure using Lip – Jaw Dissociation has not been demonstrated.
3. ☐ DNA (Did Not Attempt) – This is a box provided for any task not attempted.

Note: You may place your fingers gently under your client's jaw, as demonstrated in the DVD. This finger placement is not intended to support the jaw, rather it is to enable you to feel any jaw movement. Jaw movement is defined as movement of the mandible itself. It is not a description of muscle movement on the chin or face.

You will need the following items to implement this screening:

Cheerios

Thin pretzel sticks, Veggie Stix or similarly shaped food source

**TALK TOOLS THERAPY™**  
DISCOVER THE FEEL OF FEEDING AND SPEECH

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