

# WHY DOES MY CHILD "JUST PLAY" IN SPEECH THERAPY?

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- Attention and motivation are necessary for working on speech and language goals
- The speech therapist is engaging in play-based therapy to make learning relevant, meaningful, and fun for your child; learning to communicate should be a positive experience
- Embedding your child's individualized goals into playful activities and interactions is the speech therapist's super power
- As long as there is joy in learning, your child will always love to learn
- Play is not the opposite of learning; play IS learning



- Thoughtful planning time is spent designing speech therapy activities based on your child's special interests and sensory preferences
- Speech therapists do not "just play" for a living; what they do is **PLAY WITH A PURPOSE**
- During play-based learning activities, the speech therapist is using skilled strategies and feedback to enhance your child's learning and development (your speech therapist should be describing the strategies and cues that are being used)
- Next time your child has speech therapy, remember that play is a powerful, engaging, and effective way for young children to learn