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# Vlinder Connections

## There is so much in life to hear

Millions of Americans of all ages and from all walks of life suffer from some degree of hearing loss.

Early detection can save valuable treatment time and enhance language development for babies and young children. Early testing can also help prevent a child's hearing impairment from being mislabeled later as a learning disorder.

For teenagers and young adults, identification of a hearing problem can improve academic performance and social interaction.

For adults and the elderly, a proper hearing evaluation can increase confidence in communication with friends, family, and colleagues.

If you notice signs of hearing loss, consult an audiologist. Find one at [www.asha.org/findpro](http://www.asha.org/findpro).



Vlinder Communication Therapies, PLLC

Speech & Language, AAC, and Communication-based Behavior services for individuals with communication challenges

## Better Speech & Hearing Month

### Language is different from Speech

May is Better Speech & Hearing Month, a time to raise awareness about communication disorders.

Do you know the difference between 'language' and 'speech'?

*Mark has trouble following directions. When he talks, he sometimes can't come up with the right words. He also leaves off word endings, like past tense markers or plurals. Mark has a language problem.*

When a child cannot understand the language code (what is said to them or what they read), there is a receptive language problem. If a child does not know enough language rules to share thoughts, ideas, and feelings completely, there is an expressive language problem.

Receptive and expressive problems can exist without the other, but

they often occur together as they do for Mark.

*When you listen to Sally, she is difficult to understand. Her words sound garbled and imprecise. She also can't say several sounds. Sally has a speech problem.*

Sally has the language code correct, but the message is distorted because of incorrect movements within the mouth. Children who produce sounds incorrectly, sound rough, hoarse, or nasal, or stutter/stammer all have speech problems.

Language and speech problems can occur together or by themselves. The problem can be mild to severe. Regardless, an evaluation and therapy by a speech-language pathologist can help treat the problem and increase success.

### What is a SLP?

Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs) are specialists who work with individuals experiencing challenges communicating. They evaluate and treat communication impairments including speech and language disorders.

For more information, visit: [www.asha.org](http://www.asha.org) or [www.vlindertherapies.com](http://www.vlindertherapies.com)

## Vlinder

### Communication Therapies

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## *Reflections*

Communication disorders do not discriminate. Karen works twice as hard as her classmates to get through the same textbook. Bobby's teacher says he's bright but is a discipline problem. Mike is conscientious, but when his mom gives simple verbal instructions, he gets confused. These people have speech and language problems. They are among the one in six Americans with communication disorders.

Without help, they fail in school and work. With help, their success has no limits. Learn more by calling a certified speech-language pathologist like Cassandra Stafford at Vlinder Communication Therapies.



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