



Interacting with Persons with Speech Impediments

- If you do not understand what the person with a speaking disability is saying, say so. Honesty will be appreciated. Ask the person to repeat what was said or use an alternate phrase.
- Expect non-verbal people to communicate.
- Don't be afraid to communicate with someone who uses an alphabet board or some form of assistive technology.
- If there are instructions visible for communicating with this person, take a moment to read them.
- Do not assume that the person doesn't understand you
- If necessary, move away from a noisy source and find a quiet area to finish your conversation.
- Never assume a person has a cognitive disability just because they have a speech impediment.
- Listen attentively, be patient and wait for the person to finish sentence, rather than correcting or speaking for that person

