SPEECH|BUBBLE

PRAGMATIC LANGUAGE

AND SLP SUPPORT

WHAT IS PRAGMATIC LANGUAGE?

Pragmatic language, also known as social language, refers to the rules we use to communicate effectively and appropriately within social situations. Pragmatics can be broken down into three areas

USING LANGUAGE

This refers to using language for greeting, requesting, informing, demanding, etc.

CHANGING LANGUAGE

Understanding how we speak differently to a baby then an adult. Knowing to give more information to someone who doesn't already know what we are talking about.

FOLLOWING RULES

This refers to understanding how we take turns speaking during a conversation. Maintaining a topic of conversation. Using body language to support verbal communication.

WHAT CAN IT LOOK LIKE?

- Difficulty collectively working in groups.
- Difficulty 'reading' others body language and adjusting their communication to accommodate it.
- Difficulty when the schedule of the day is changed.
- Difficulty staying on a topic of conversation that is not preferred.





SO WHAT CAN THE SLP DO TO HELP?

An SLP has had training and education to help teach students struggling with pragmatic language difficulties. They teach different ways to think about the aspects of social communication, as well as, strategies and techniques to use to make social communication less difficult and stressful. An SLP may work with other professionals to make services as effective as possible.

The SLP may specific areas of pragmatic language to help the student. These areas are, but are not limited to:

- Identifying feelings using clues from facial expressions and body posture in other. (Emotional Recognition)
- Teaching concrete steps to assess social situations and determine appropriate responses.
- Turn taking in conversations and activities.
- Understanding another's perspective and responding in an acceptable manner.
- Social/communication problem solving skills such as compromising.
- Identifying and understanding sarcasm, humor, and nuance language.