

# CHILDHOOD APRAXIA OF SPEECH

CHILDHOOD APRAXIA OF SPEECH (CAS) IS A SPEECH DISORDER IN WHICH A CHILD HAS DIFFICULTY MAKING ACCURATE MOVEMENT WHEN SPEAKING. THE BRAIN STRUGGLES TO DEVELOP PLANS FOR SPEECH MOVEMENT.

## CAUSES

IN SOME CASES IT CAN BE DUE TO:

- STROKE OR TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY (TBI)
- DAMAGE TO THE BRAIN
- GENETIC DISORDER OR SYNDROME



## SIGNS

MAY SHOW SOME OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING SIGNS. TALK TO A DOCTOR AND SEE AN SLP IF YOUR CHILD IS OLDER THAN 3 AND:

- DOES NOT ALWAYS SAY WORDS THE SAME WAY
- TENDS TO PUT THE STRESS ON THE WRONG SYLLABLE OR WORD
- DISTORTS OR CHANGES SOUNDS
- CAN SAY SHORTER WORDS MORE CLEARLY THAN LONGER WORDS

## FUN FACTS

- A CHILD WITH CAS KNOWS WHAT THEY WANT TO SAY
  - THE PROBLEM IS NOT HOW THE CHILD THINKS BUT HOW THE BRAIN TELLS THE MOUTH TO MOVE.
- CHILDREN WITH CAS MAY ALSO HAVE:
  - DIFFICULTY WITH FINE MOTOR SKILLS
  - DELAYED LANGUAGE
  - PROBLEMS WITH READING, SPELLING, AND WRITING