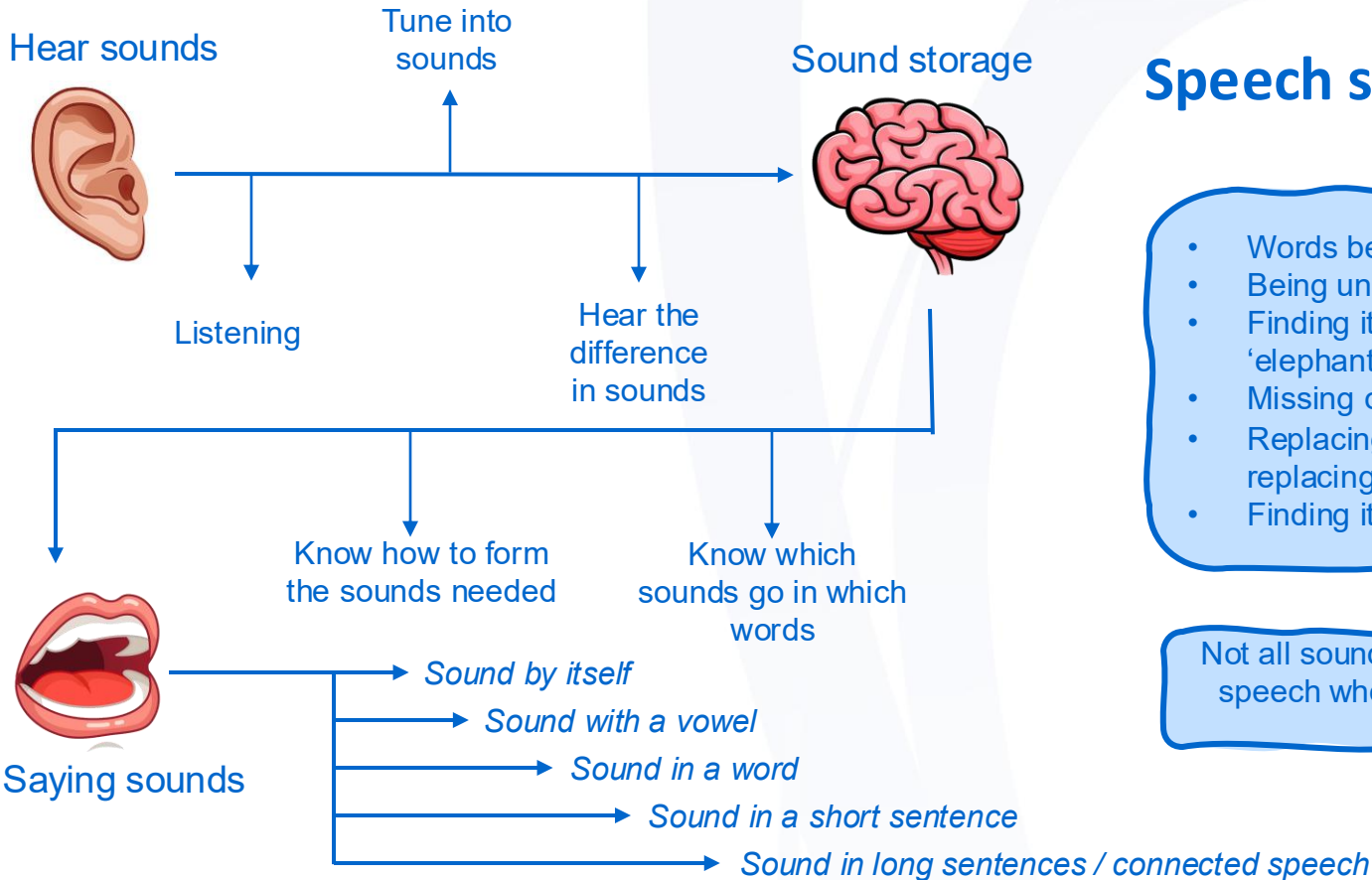


What is Speech?

Speech is a combination of the sounds we use to make up words. It requires a combination of knowing the difference between sounds and being able to move your mouth in the right way to make sounds.



Speech sound difficulties can look like:

- Words being unclear / difficult to understand.
- Being unable to say some sounds by themselves.
- Finding it hard to copy the syllables in words (e.g., 'elephant' becomes 'ephant').
- Missing off the end of words.
- Replacing some sounds with other sounds (e.g., replacing a 's' with a 't' sound)
- Finding it hard to say sounds within sentences.

Not all sounds develop at the same time! Please see the speech wheel to find out what sounds are expected at what age.

HOW SPEECH SOUNDS DEVELOP

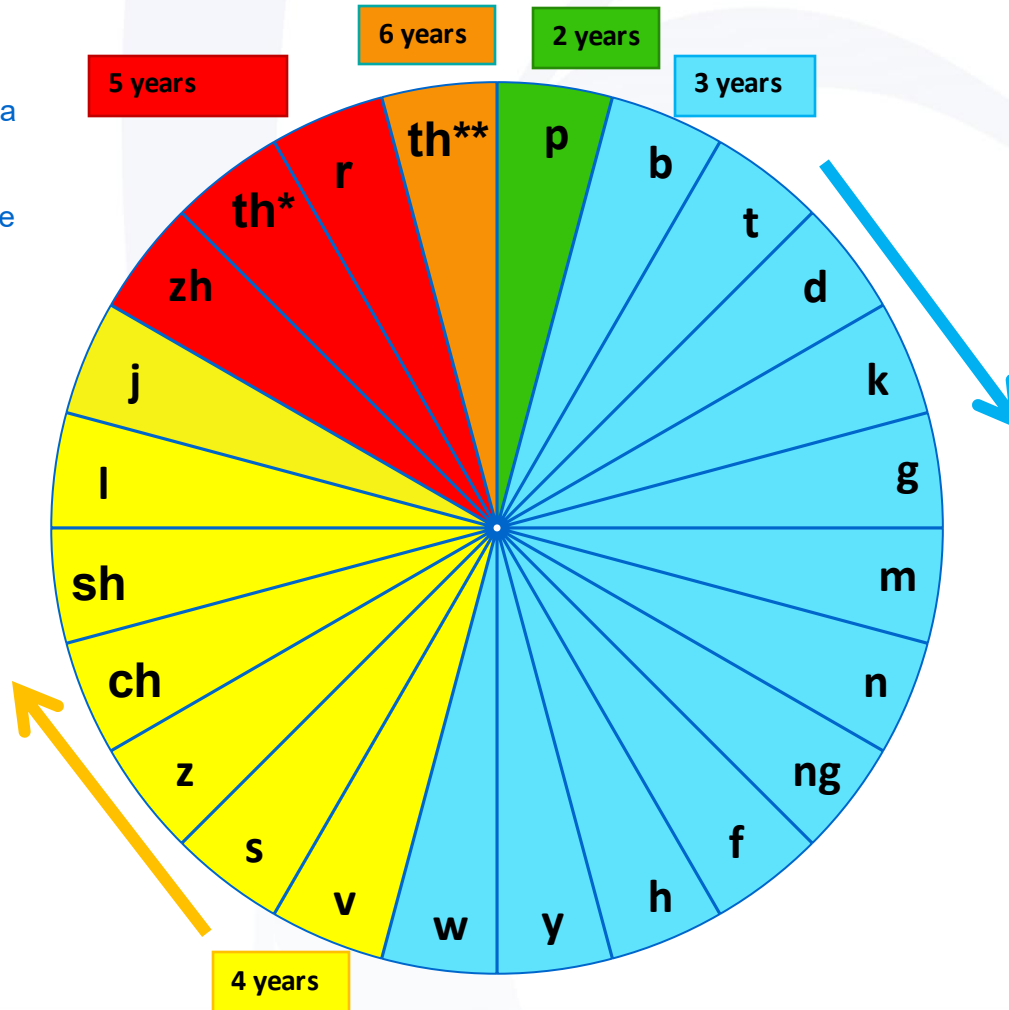
Across the World

Look out for '**consonant clusters**' as these words develop later.

This is when 2-3 consonants occur in a sequence in a word

Children will usually just use one of the sounds until they are around **4 years old**.

e.g. 'spider' = "pider", 'frog' = "fog",
'clown' = "cown"



* = voiced (e.g. this)
** = voiceless (e.g. thing)
Zh = the 's' in 'measure'