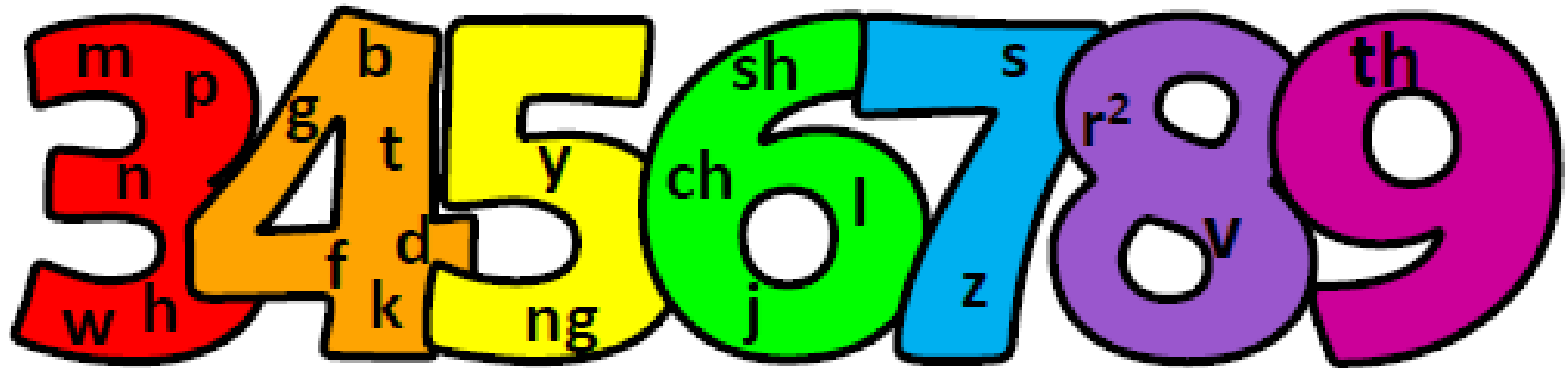


The Development of Speech Sounds in Children

Young children do not pronounce speech sounds correctly all of the time. Vowel sounds are typically pronounced correctly by age three but consonant sounds take longer. The chart below shows the age by which most¹ boys and girls pronounce the English consonant sounds correctly. Consonant blends may take longer to develop. Be aware that the development of speech sounds may be affected by other languages spoken in the child's home. If you have questions about the development of communication skills, please contact your school's speech-language pathologist.



Speech-Language Pathology Services, Toronto District School Board

The normative data for this chart were adapted from the *Goldman-Fristoe test of Articulation 2*.

¹Age by which the sound is produced correctly in all word positions by at least 90% of children.

²There is a great deal of variability in acquisition of the sound /r/.

The concept for this chart was adapted from <http://www.teachersites.net>

