

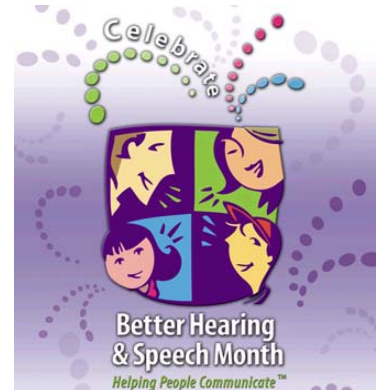
# May is Better Hearing and Speech Month

## Receptive vs. Expressive Language



### Who are the Extra Mural Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs)?

We are clinicians with a Masters degree in Communication Disorders. We work in a variety of areas to assess and support the development of speech, language, voice, fluency and swallowing skills. We are employees of the Horizon Health Network – Extra-Mural Program. The SLPs working in District 2 schools are: Melanie Doiron, Sarah Hicks, Shelly LeBlanc, Petra Robitaille, Rhonda Rubin, Alison Scott, Greg Steeves, and Tiffany Steeves.



### What is Receptive Language?

*Receptive Language* is the understanding and processing of information.

#### **Examples of receptive language areas:**

- following auditory directions
- understanding the meaning of grammatical structures
- comprehension of concepts
- understanding words and how they are related

#### **Some strategies for helping students with receptive language difficulties:**

- When giving the student auditory directions, keep your sentences simple and give the directions one step at a time in a logical sequence.
- Give the students time to respond to information presented.
- Talk about words and what they mean during everyday situations.

### What is Expressive Language?

*Expressive Language* is the use of grammar and vocabulary to give a message.

#### **Example of expressive language areas:**

- use of morphological forms (i.e., verb tenses, pronouns, plurals)
- forming sentences which are grammatically correct and which make sense
- using accurate labels for objects, actions, and people

#### **Some strategies for helping students with expressive language difficulties:**

- Correct the student's errors by modeling appropriate sentence form and content.
- Expand upon the student's short utterances by repeating what the student has said and adding new information.
- Talk at every opportunity! Describe experiences and have them share their experiences with you.

### Need More Information???

Please contact your school Speech-Language Pathologist with any questions. We have lots of speech and language materials and programs for school personnel and families to use. Call: 867-6500 (Moncton) or 364-4400 (Sackville).