

# FACTS

## at your fingertips



Speech & Hearing Month  
Speak well. Hear well. Live well.

May is Speech and Hearing Month  
[maymonth.ca](http://maymonth.ca)

## Speech-Language Pathology

### Did You Know...?

1. A child's vocabulary upon entering school is a prime predictor of school success or failure.
2. Watching TV does not improve a child's vocabulary or communication skills; there is no substitute for conversation when it comes to learning to talk.
3. Early language abilities are directly related to later reading abilities.
4. It is projected that the number of adults with low-literacy skills in Canada will increase from 12.4 million in 2006 to 15 million by 2031.
5. Stuttering is not caused by parenting practices, a bad scare or psychological trauma.
6. A shocking 70% of young offenders in the UK have speech, language and communication needs that are often undetected (refer to [www.rcslt.org](http://www.rcslt.org) for the full story).
7. Twenty teachers in an average school in Australia will take time off work each year because of voice problems – that's 28% of all teachers in the country.
8. At least 30% of people suffer loss of language (aphasia) after a stroke.
9. 85% of people with Parkinson's disease have voice, speech and/or swallowing difficulties.
10. The opportunity to communicate is a basic human right. Read more about the International Communication Project (ICP) at [www.communication2014.com](http://www.communication2014.com).

*Corresponding reference material available upon request*

**ONE IN SIX** Canadians has a speech, language or hearing problem.

For communication fact sheets and more information regarding the professionals who provide help and support, visit: [www.sac-oac.ca](http://www.sac-oac.ca)

