

S / s

S

The snake sound **Santa, Ghost, Bus**

nake

If you are looking for materials, games, and Boom Cards specifically for **"S" blend** sounds, follow the link below:

<https://freeslp.com/s-blends/>

How to make the "s" sounds

- Tell the child to smile with their lips close together. We want the lips to be *almost* touching each other and the top and bottom teeth to be *almost* touching each other.
- Have the child place the tip of their tongue super close to the bumpy spot (alveolar ridge) of their gums behind their front teeth, **but** not touching it!
- While still keeping the lips and teeth close to one another and the tip of their tongue close to the bumpy spot, have the child blow out a stream of air.
- Turn **off** your voice (voice is the rumbling in your vocal folds. Have your child/client place their hand on their/your neck during the production of "s" and "z", and have them feel the difference between the two. In the production of "s", there should be no rumble or voicing. While in the production of "z", there should be a rumbling or voicing.)



Snake

Age of Mastery:

4

Tricks and Tips for producing the “s” sound:

- To try and emphasize that we don’t want the tongue to be between our teeth during the production of “s”, tell the child that their tongue is a snake and their teeth are the snake’s cage. We don’t want to let the snake out of the cage, so we should not see it during the production of “s”!
- A fun way to practice is to take turns and see who can be the loudest or quietest snake in the jungle.
- Although we don’t want the tip of the tongue to be touching the bumpy spot during the production of “s”, having the child know exactly where the bumpy spot is located is helpful. A fun and tasty way to teach the child where it is production is to put some Nutella, peanut butter, sour candy gel, or any other spreadable food they enjoy on the bumpy ridge. (Rubbing a sucker on the target spot works as well) Once the child has felt the spot a few times, have the child place their tongue super close to the bumpy spot and blow out air.
- If the child has siblings, they might be familiar with the phrase “I’m not touching you” where one of their siblings, in an effort to annoy them, puts their finger or hand close to them and says “I’m not touching you!”. Tell the child to pretend their tongue is the finger and they are trying to get as close to the bumpy ridge as possible without touching it. If we touch the bumpy ridge, we might get in trouble from our parents!
- These are general tips for the /s/ sounds. Lisper behaviors make up a large portion of /s/ errors, so we are working on creating dedicated pages for each.

Lateral Lisp (Daffy Duck. Slushy sounding “s”)

Interdental Lisp (“th” for “s”)



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