



## Spanish Sound Development Chart

Age at which 90% of children have acquired each phomene

Phoneme	3:0 yrs.mo	3:3	3:7	4:0	4:3	4:7	5:0	5:3	5:7	6:0	6:3	6:7	7:0	7:3
p														
b														
t														
m														
w (hu)														
m														
k														
y (ll)														
f														
l														
h (x)														
g														
ch														
d														
ñ														
r (tap)														
r (trill)														
s														

### Sounds not in the Spanish language

z  
 th voiced and unvoiced  
 ing  
 j zh sh  
 sh

### Alternate sounds used by Spanish-speaking children

t and d and both dentalized and unreleased in Spanish  
 b > for > v, "best" said for "vest"  
 s > for > z, "fussy" said for "fuzzy"  
 t > for > ±th, "tanks" said for "thanks" or s > for > ±th in Castillian Spanish only  
 in > for > ing, "lookin" said for "looking"  
 j or zh or sh for > y in Castillian Spanish or some South American countries  
 ch > for > sh, "chow" said for "show"

### Many Spanish-speaking children use these patterns when learning to speak English

*Cluster reduction:* "sake" or "nake" said for "snake"

*Liquid simplification:* "bewy" said for "belly"

*Assimilation:* "bibbon" said for "ribbon" or "plip" said for "flip"

*Final consonant deletion:* Due to the majority of Spanish words ending in vowels (only consonants in final position > n, l, d, (tap) r and s

Adapted from:

- Bernthal, J., Bankson, N. (Eds.) (1994). *Child Phonology: Characteristics, Assessment, and Intervention with Special Populations*. New York: Thieme Medical Publishers, Inc.
- Jimenez, B. (1987). Acquisition of Spanish consonants in children aged 3-5 years, 7 months. *Language, Speech and Hearing Services in Schools*, 18, 344-356.
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Web location: <http://firstyears.org/c4/u6/spanish.pdf>