

Tarby Rockets to Slower Speech: Guide for Parents and Speech-Language Pathologists
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The purpose of this book is to teach children to use a reduced rate of speech, while maintaining a natural speaking style. Reduced rate of speech is often used as one several fluency-enhancing strategies. Children will learn how to use pausing and phrasing to produce a slower speaking rate. They will also learn appropriate turn-taking.

As you read the story with the child, have them participate by completing tasks with Tarby. For example, each time Tarby is learning a new strategy, have the child use the practice sentences that are provided. At the beginning of the story, Tarby's fast rate of speech should be reflected by the reader. As the book progresses, Tarby will learn strategies that are reflected by various markings in the book. Phrasing is indicated by / marks throughout the story. Pausing **and** phrasing is indicated by (). When this mark is shown, a definitive pause should take place before the next phrase begins.

During the turn-taking activity between Tarby and Sally Mud (the pig), children can imitate Tarby's responses (in italics) and may even come up with their own answers to the prompts.

In addition, language stimulation can be targeted by discussing the pictures with the child. You will see that there are many "silly" subtleties in the pictures to discuss with the children (e.g., a duck being pushed on a swing, a skunk going down a sliding board, etc.).