

“T-to-S” Therapy Technique

Start by having the child say some repetitions of the /t/ sound. Only I don’t call it the /t/ sound, I call it the “**SHORT** Ticking Sound”. I tell my clients that we are going to practice the short ticking sound 10 times, but on the last time we are going to make it just a little bit longer. Then I give them an example of what I am talking about before we begin practicing together. It goes like this...

t, t, t, t, t, t, t, t, t, ts

The first time I only extend my /t/ slightly, making a very short /s/. Then we practice together, and if the client is successful we keep practicing, but we make the last /t/ longer and longer. It will look something like this...

t, t, t, t, t, t, t, t, t, tss

t, t, t, t, t, t, t, t, t, tssss

t, t, t, t, t, t, t, t, t, tssssss

I keep practicing with them making the last ticking sound slightly longer each time. I only increase the length of the last ticking sound if they were successful with the previous trial. Then I have the client see if they can practice the “**LONG** Ticking Sound”. That looks something like this...

ts, ts, ts, ts, ts, ts, ts, ts, ts, ts

Then tsss, tsss, tsss, tsss, tsss, tsss, tsss, tsss, tsss, tsss

(accentuating the /s/ and minimizing the /t/)

Then I see if they can drop the /t/

sss, sss, sss, sss, sss, sss, sss, sss, sss, sss

And before you know it – they are producing a beautiful /s/ sound all by themselves!!!

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