

**PLAY-BASED THERAPY**

with licensed occupational, speech, and craniosacral therapists



**Is your baby or child struggling  
with speech, feeding,  
motor coordination, breastfeeding  
or picky eating?**

Most  
major health  
insurance plans  
accepted

Call today to set up an appointment!

**(248) 939-4030**

Located in Farmington Hills!

27655 Middlebelt Rd, Suite 130

**No  
Waitlist!**

We're here to help children struggling achieve normal functioning skills with compassion, care, and proven techniques.

- ➔ Occupational Therapy
- ➔ Feeding Therapy
- ➔ Speech Therapy
- ➔ Sensory Integration Therapy

MICHIGAN  
**Pediatric  
Therapy**



A Path Forward

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# Baby Feeding Challenges

## How Occupational Therapy Can Help

Struggling with feeding your baby? You're not alone. Occupational therapy (OT) provides essential feeding support for infants facing challenges like oral-motor delays, difficulty with solids, or issues from tongue- or lip-tie. Here's how OT can help build healthy, stress-free feeding habits.

### Common Baby Feeding Issues

#### Tongue-Tie and Lip-Tie

Babies with tongue-tie or lip-tie often struggle to latch, making feeding frustrating.



### How OT Helps

OT improves oral-motor coordination and collaborates with specialists to address these challenges.

#### Transitioning to Solids

Sensory sensitivities and delayed oral-motor skills can make starting solids difficult.



OT uses play-based techniques to introduce new textures and tastes gradually, easing the transition.

#### Oral-Motor Delays

Difficulty with chewing, sucking, or swallowing can impact feeding.



OT strengthens the necessary muscles through targeted exercises, helping babies eat safely and effectively.

#### Bottle Feeding Challenges

Feeding challenges like poor latch, medical issues, or improper positioning can cause stress and lead to early weaning.



OT identifies underlying issues and provides strategies to improve oral coordination, making feeding less stressful.

### The OT Journey

Assessment



Personalized  
Therapy

Parental Guidance

Collaborative Approach

Home Strategies



Graduation



**Contact us today to schedule an appointment.**





# The Connection Between Speech Therapy and Social Skills in Children

Speech therapy is about more than just helping children pronounce words or overcome language delays. It plays a significant role in fostering social skills for children with communication challenges, helping them navigate social interactions, making eye contact, and understanding social cues.

## Why Social Skills Matter

Social skills are critical for building friendships, succeeding in school, and navigating social situations. For children, these skills include:

- ➔ Making eye contact
- ➔ Recognizing body language and facial expressions
- ➔ Listening and taking turns in conversations
- ➔ Starting and maintaining conversations

Children with speech and language difficulties often struggle in these areas, leading to social anxiety or withdrawal. That's where speech therapy comes in.

## How Speech Therapy Improves Social Skills

**Non-Verbal Communication:** Speech therapy teaches children to recognize and use body language, facial expressions, and gestures.

**Building Confidence:** Through role-playing, speech therapists help children practice conversations and greetings, building confidence in social settings.

**Eye Contact & Active Listening:** Speech therapy emphasizes eye contact and listening skills, helping kids connect with others.

**Understanding Social Cues:** Therapists help children decode subtle social signals like sarcasm or humor.

**Turn-Taking & Conversation:** Speech therapy focuses on teaching children how to take turns and respond during conversations.

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# Fine Motor Skills

## Signs Your Child May Need Help

- Difficulty holding or using objects such as pencils, scissors, or utensils
- Trouble fastening buttons, zipping zippers, or tying shoelaces
- Avoidance of fine motor tasks like drawing or cutting
- Difficulty with handwriting or controlling a pencil
- Challenges feeding themselves, such as using a fork or spoon

## Tips To Improve Fine Motor Skills

### ➔ Encourage Play with Small Objects

#### Activity Idea

Thread a bracelet or necklace using large, colorful beads. Start with pipe cleaners for younger kids, and gradually move to yarn or string.

#### How It Helps

Builds hand-eye coordination and finger strength

### ➔ Build Hand Strength with Squeezing Activities

#### Activity Idea

Use a sponge to squeeze water and transfer it between containers.

#### How It Helps

Strengthens hand and finger muscles

### ➔ Incorporate Utensil Practice During Mealtime

#### Activity Idea

Allow your child to self-feed using a spoon or fork with foods that are easy to scoop, like mashed potatoes or oatmeal.

#### How It Helps

Encourages hand strength, coordination, and independence

### Occupational therapy can help.

With us, your child can improve hand strength and dexterity, hand-eye coordination, and precision through play-based techniques in a caring and supportive environment.

Visit our website to learn more  
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