



# If I Could Only Tell You, I Would Say ...

*What would a young child with apraxia of speech say if they could and if talking wasn't so difficult? What would they like to tell us? Maybe, some of the following ...*

## Childhood Apraxia of Speech

- I feel nervous that you might ask me my name and I won't be able to say it.
- I have the answer in my head but I need you to give me more time to answer so that I can say my words the best that I know how.
- I really want you to know that I am smart even though I don't talk well yet.
- I want to hide sometimes when you ask me to use my words.
- It can be scary to be with new people who don't understand what I want or need.
- It feels bad when kids say that I talk funny.
- Sometimes I point or try to use my hands to "talk" and show you what I mean.
- I feel happy when you let me know that you are proud of how I am learning to talk.
- Sometimes I need a big person to help include me as one of the gang.
- I need you to explain to the kids that even if I can't talk well, I still want to play.
- There are times it just feels easier to be by myself so I won't have to say things over and over again.
- Sometimes I just don't know what to do when I cannot say the words. I might get upset or mad or sad because it is hard for me.
- There are things that I can do really great and it feels good when someone notices those things.

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