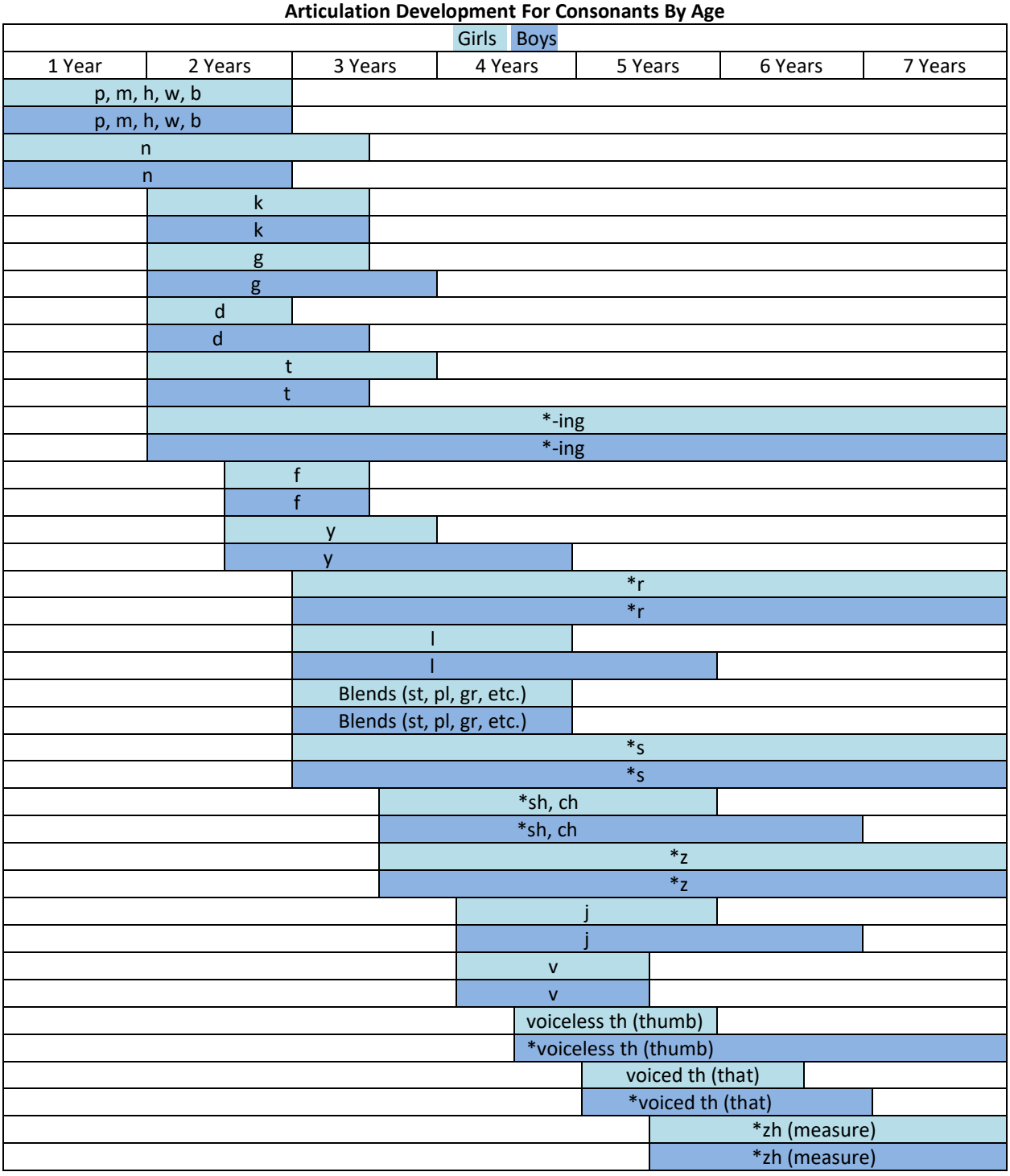
Articulation Development For Consonants By Age



Adapted from Sander JSHD 1972; Smit, et al JSHD 1990 and the Nebraska-Iowa Articulation Norms Project

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*Most SLPs do not agree with waiting until age 8 to master any phonemes. Many like to start working on delayed phonemes by age 5 and have them mastered by age 6 in all positions of words.

**If there are signs and symptoms of tongue thrust (pushing tongue forward and even out of the child's mouth during speech and feeding) while producing phonemes *other than* /th/ ("the," "three," etc), this is an indication of an orofacial myofunctional disorder and should be assessed by an SLP who is an orofacial myologist, as well as by an airway dentist. Tongue thrust may be commonly observed with the production of /s/ and /z/, in addition to other phonemes.

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