Tips & Strategies for Improving Production of Multisyllabic Words

1. **Clapping:** Clap out the syllables of words as you say them. Say them nice and slow so your child has time to clap with you.

2. **Body Tapping:** Tap out syllables using body parts (like head, shoulders, knees, and toes). Touch a different body part for each syllable.

3. **Body Movements:** Move a part of your body (such as your head or shake an arm) for each syllable.

4. **Tapping:** Tap on a table, drum, or other item while producing words with multiple syllables. Again go slow so your child can hear the syllables and tap to them.

5. **Pacing Boards/Cards:** Use items with 3 – 4 dots on them for your child to touch while saying each syllable of the word. This strategy can also be used to decrease speaking rate, by tapping on a circle for each word in a sentence. A pacing board teaches a child to slow down and segment each syllable or word in a sentence.

6. **Sorting by syllables:** Having your child sort items throughout your help can increase awareness and production of multisyllabic words. All you need is 3 or 4 baskets or buckets and random items with 2 – 4 syllables. Label each basket with 2, 3, or 4. Then provide your child an example. For instance, I found an airplane. Airplane has two syllables, this goes in the 2 bucket. Continue taking turns finding items and putting them in the bucket that represents the number of syllables.