

How to increase a child's *intent* during motor-based treatment.

PART 1



I'm not working on *sounds*

I'm working on *movement*

1 SET THE STAGE



Tell the child:

"We're not working on sounds. We're working on movement."

.....
This shifts focus from saying it right → moving on purpose.

2 WHY INTENT MATTERS



Motor learning requires conscious, intentional practice—especially early in acquisition.

Without awareness:

- Repetitions become rote
- Accuracy doesn't stabilize
- Generalization is limited

3 SLOW IT DOWN



Slower rate allows the child to:

- Plan the movement
- Feel transitions between syllables
- Attend to accuracy

4 HELP THE CHILD FEEL THE MOVEMENT



Increase somatosensory awareness by:

- Gestural or tactile cues
- Asking: "What did your lips/jaw/tongue do?"
- Contrasting correct vs. incorrect attempts

5 HELP THE CHILD THINK ABOUT THE MOVEMENT



Encourage conscious attention with questions like:

- "Where did your tongue go?"
- "Did your mouth open or close?"
- "Let's do that movement again."

Thinking about how the mouth moves builds stronger motor plans.

6 KEY TAKEAWAY



Effective CAS treatment isn't just repetition.

It's intentional, movement-focused practice that builds awareness, control, and lasting motor plans.