

HIGH FIVE SPEECH THERAPY

Emily Goudreault, M.A., CCC-SLP Speech-Language Pathologist

high5speechtherapy.com emily@high5speechtherapy.com | 970.988.6718

"Picky Eater"	"Problem Eater"
The child eats a decreased variety of foods, 30 foods or more	The child eats a significantly restricted variety of foods, usually less than 20 different foods
Foods lost due to "burn out" because of a food jag are usually regained after a 2 week break	Foods lost due to food jags are NOT re-acquired
(Food Jag = when a child eats the same food day after day or meal after meal for several weeks)	
Able to tolerate new foods on plate and usually can touch or taste a new food (even if reluctantly)	Cries and "falls apart" when presented with new foods
Eats at least one food from most all food texture groups	Refuses entire categories of food textures
Frequently eats a different set of foods than the rest of the family, but usually eats with the family	Almost always eats different foods than the family, may need to eat separately
Will add new foods to repertoire in 15-25 steps on Journey to Eating Hierarchy	Adds new foods in more than 25 steps
Sometimes reported by parent as a "picky eater" at well-child check-ups	Persistently reported by parent as a "picky eater" across multiple well-child check-ups
This describes my child.	This describes my child.
WHAT SHOULD I DO?	WHAT SHOULD I DO?
- Use the Journey To Eating Hierarchy to introduce new/non-preferred foods	- Consider consulting with a feeding therapist for additional support, in addition to using the Journey
Make sure you have good mealtime routines and rules in place (see additional handouts)	to Eating and solid mealtime routines/rules.

This handout has been borrowed from the SOS Approach to Feeding: Copyright 2000 / 2010, Dr. Kay A. Toomey, toomey@starcenter.us