

Late-Talking Children

A Symptom or a Stage?

Stephen M. Camarata



"Among the many anguishes of parenthood is having a child who remains silent long past the age at which his or her age-mates are talking a blue streak. Their deep distress makes them easy prey for hucksters and quacks who are all too happy to multiply their anxiety with dire diagnoses and to sell them on expensive but worthless remedies. In *Late-Talking Children*, the world's expert on the syndrome offers good sense, humane advice, and the latest science to such parents—while reminding his fellow scientists that it raises fascinating questions for our understanding of language, genetics, development, and the organization of the human brain."

—Steven Pinker, Johnstone Professor of Psychology, Harvard University, and author of *The Language Instinct* and *How the Mind Works*

"Professor Stephen Camarata's new book will be a revelation and a treasure to anxious and puzzled parents of late-talking children. It should also be read by professionals who treat—and sometimes mistreat—late-talking children, as well as by those who set educational and medical policies."

—Thomas Sowell, Hoover Institution, Stanford University

"I met Dr. Camarata when I was physician-in-chief at Mattel Children's Hospital UCLA. I learned so much from him about children who are late to talk that I encouraged him to write a book for parents. I am glad he did this because his book taught me a lot more. While written for parents, professionals also will learn from his book."

—Ed McCabe, MD, PhD, Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer, March of Dimes Foundation

"As parents with developmental concerns about our children, we often are told we are the best experts on our own child. This is especially true if we have good information at the start. For parents of late-talking children, including those with an autism diagnosis, this book is that. Camarata invites your critical thinking by providing a base of real knowledge."

—Sue Swenson, parent, and former Commissioner for Developmental Disabilities, US Department of Health and Human Services

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