

Tom has SLI



This is Tom. He has SLI., or Specific Language Impairment. He lives at home with his mum and dad, his sister and brother. He likes playing basketball and he has a pet dog. He walks to a school near his home. At school he likes history and cooking. He has a friend called Imogen. They play hide and seek at playtime.

You might not know Tom has SLI by looking at him. You cannot catch SLI by being his friend. People with SLI can be good friends, they can learn at school and can have lots of interests.

Having SLI means Tom can find talking and listening difficult. He might not understand what you say to him. You can help by being patient and trying to explain again, or by showing him what you mean.

He might not be able to tell you what he is thinking. You can help him by listening carefully and being patient. Tom might use pictures or pointing to tell you what he wants.

If you don't know how to help Tom you can ask an adult.