

## Episode 51: Finding the Courage for a Career Change: Where to Begin (SLP Spotlight)

Meet Sara Schmuckler, a speech-language pathologist who specializes in voice and recently made the jump from a full-time clinical position to starting her own private practice. In this episode of The Missing Link for SLPs, Sara reveals what her journey has been like so far and delves into how she made the brave decision to change her career path.

### Discussion & Reflection Questions

1. Tell us who you are and what you do now. Why are you a speech pathologist? What's your speech pathology story?
2. After you graduated, where did you go and what did you do? Tell us about your early experience as an SLP.
3. Tell us about your journey from the time your clinical fellowship ended to what you're doing now.
4. What is it like now that you have your own private practice? What were some of the biggest challenges you had while starting?
5. What are some of your favorite voice resources?
6. What are some words of advice that you would give the speech pathologist who wants to break off into private practice or become a voice specialist like you?
7. What is one client or patient that you will never forget?
8. How did you make the brave decision to change your career path?
9. If you could sum up what being an SLP means to you in one word, what word would that be?

### Quote of the Conversation

*"We have the ability, under one title, to reinvent ourselves as clinicians. I mean, and also from a treatment standpoint, when something doesn't work, what do we do? You know, we have all of this experience, so we adapt and we reinvent our approach until we find something that works. And that can be just within one session. We're constantly reinventing ourselves as clinicians. As human beings. As people who want to help other people." -Sara Schmuckler, M.S. CCC-SLP*

### Sara Schmuckler, M.S. CCC-SLP

*Speech-Language Pathologist, Founder/Owner of On Your Voice*



Sara Schmuckler is a speech-language pathologist and founder/owner of On Your Voice LLC, a private teletherapy practice currently serving Pennsylvania that specializes in voice disorders as well as speech, language and communication deficits for pediatrics and adults. Sara received her Bachelor's in Theater from Temple University, pre-graduate certificate in Communication

Disorders from West Chester University and Master's in Speech-Language Pathology from Towson University. Sara is certified in LSVT LOUD and LSVT eLOUD and is a Certified Lingraphica Technology Specialist. Sara recently made the leap into private practice to have more control and flexibility in her schedule and allow her to specialize in the therapeutic areas that she is passionate about.

Sara is grateful to be working from home now and able to spend more time with her husband, Seth, their almost 2 year old daughter, Talula and Labrador, Rosie.

## Keep the Conversation Going

Sara Schmuckler, M.S., CCC-SLP

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*To the speech path student, one of the biggest pieces of advice I could ever tell you as a student is to advocate for yourself and to work hard. Don't be afraid to ask and question your professors in a way that is respectful. Asking questions is how you can learn and grow.*



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Send a message to [Mattie@FreshSLP.com](mailto:Mattie@FreshSLP.com)!*

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