# MOTO-KINESTHETIC TECHNIQUES:

- Edna Young in the late 1930s developed the moto-kinesthetic method. These methods involve the clinician using her/his hands on the client's lips, jaw or face to direct movement necessary for each speech sound. This manipulation provides information to the client related to the place at which movement beings, amount of tension or pressure needed, overall shape and direction of movement and timing. Use tactile and kinesthetic senses to help client feel the way sound is produced (Secord, Boyce, Donohue, Fox, & Shine, 2007).

- Use gloves to slightly retract the lips and position the jaw fairly open.

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# TEACHING THE /ɚ/ SOUND


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**MID-CENTRAL, ROUNDED RHOTICIZED VOWEL, WHICH ONLY OCCURS IN UNSTRESSED SYLLABLES**

**CONTEXTS:**
**INITIAL:** NO INITIAL SOUND IN WORDS
**MEDIAL:** ENTER<u>ER</u>TAIN
**FINAL:** TEACH<u>ER</u>

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# SHAPING TECHNIQUES:

- Shape /l/ to /ɚ/ by prolonging sound and dragging tongue from the front to the back.
- Shape /g/ to /ɚ/ by dropping tongue slightly.
- Shape from /ɑ/ to /ɚ/ by prolonging sound as tongue tip is slowly raised up and back; use tongue depressor to guide movement of tongue.

# METAPHORS

- Rooster sound.
- Fire truck sound
- Lifter sound.

# KEY ENVIRONMENTS:

- Blend /ɚ/with phonemes /k/ & /g/. The back placement of /k/ and /g/ should lead to correct production of /ɚ/.
- Use words that contain a vocalic /ɚ/and a pre-vocalic /r/, such as teacher to ring (e.g., teacher ring). This technique is also known as back chaining.

# PHONETIC PLACEMENT TECHNIQUES:

- The unstressed /ɚ/is produced by a bunched or retroflexed tongue position depending on the individual.; see descriptions in Bleile (2006) and Secord, Boyce, Donohue, Fox, & Shine, (2007).
- Instruct client to lie on floor on his back, relax mouth and say /ɚ/.
- Use a tongue depressor to help with tongue posture for /ɚ/; place tip of depressor on gum ridge behind lower central incisors; have client hold it there with underside of tongue; move tongue back with a lever action of tongue depressor while client attempts /ɚ/.