WHAT IS A SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST (SLP) essential CHECKLIST

1. Conduct Communication & Speech Assessments

- ☐ The SLP evaluates receptive language (understanding), expressive language (using words/tools), and pragmatic skills (social communication).
- ☐ They identify your child's unique communication strengths and challenges to build an individualized support plan.

2. Establish Functional & Alternative Communication Modalities

- ☐ Therapists build reliable ways for your child to express their daily wants, needs, feelings, and personal boundaries.
- ☐ Support extends beyond spoken words to include Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC), picture exchange systems, sign language, and gesture processing.

3. Address Speech Mechanics & Feeding Safety

- ☐ Sessions focus on articulation, motor planning, and vocal clarity for speech production.
- ☐ The SLP also treats oral-motor challenges and sensory-based feeding sensitivities to ensure mealtime safety and texture expansion.

4. Build Social Interaction & Self-Advocacy Skills

- ☐ The therapist supports pragmatic skills like turn-taking, conversation flow, perspective-taking, and peer engagement.
- ☐ Interventions focus on self-advocacy, empowering your child to state choices, boundaries, and needs independently.

5. Reduce Communication Frustration & Provide Integrated Care

- ☐ Replacing communication barriers with accessible tools helps prevent emotional distress and behavioral frustration.
- ☐ Monarch House SLPs collaborate with BCBAs and OTs to offer strength-based, neurodiversity-affirming care across home, school, and community environments.