

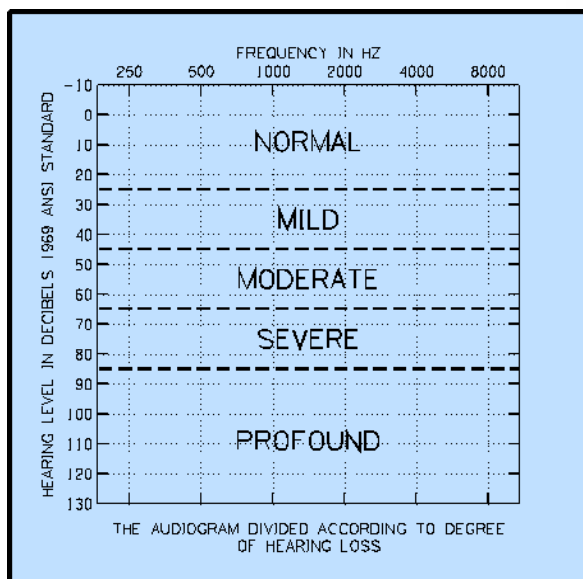


How is Hearing Measured

Adapted from the Boys Town National Research Hospital

Hearing is evaluated by Audiologists. Audiologists are professionals who specialize in hearing and conduction testing. The results from the tests are recorded on an audiogram. An audiogram is a graph showing hearing sensitivity.

The degree of hearing loss is determined by measuring hearing threshold, the levels in decibels (dB) at which a signal is just barely heard. The louder sounds must be made to be heard, the greater the degree of hearing loss. Thresholds are measured at several frequencies (itches) and graphed on the audiogram. The frequencies tested are those important for hearing and understanding speech and other environmental sounds. Frequency is noted in Hertz (Hz).



February, 2011

Parent Links
Hope!
Dream!
Achieve!

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Achieve!

Is a program of the California Department of Education funded by a federal Maternal and Child Health Bureau grant. The Parent Links name and materials are used with permission of the Coalition of Agencies Serving the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Inc.

Increasing Literacy Skills with Your Deaf Infant

Rosemary Garrity and Robert Anthony, Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf

Communicating with your child is the foundation of reading.

It is never too early to communicate with your child, especially if he is deaf or hard of hearing. Very young infants may not be able to use words, but they can communicate. Babies communicate when they cry, babble, kick, wiggle, and smile.

Wait for your child to pay attention to you before you try to communicate with him.

It can be very hard to wait. But, when you do wait, you can get good results. An effective communicator is patient. Your baby's attention cannot be forced but it can be won!

Keep eye contact.

Always respond when you get your child's eye contact. Smile. Talk. Sign.

Use facial expressions to communicate.

Use your face as an extra voice. Facial expressions show love, concern, surprise, and excitement. Try tasting foods. Make faces. Frown if a food tastes bitter. Smile if you like the food. Interesting facial expressions will help keep Baby's attention. Look in the mirror together and make faces.



Take turns with your child.

Let your child take the time he needs to babble. When Baby makes sounds, wait your turn. Then, imitate his sounds.

Be observant.

Look for Baby's response and build on it.

Follow your child's lead.

You don't have to *teach* language. Just talk/sign to your baby about his immediate interests.

Be sure your child can see what you say and sign.

If Baby is on the floor, get on the floor with him.

If Baby is in his carriage, bend over and look into the carriage.

Having fun together is a wonderful way to share effective communication.

Play games with expressive body and facial expressions like: Pat-a-Cake, Peek-a-Boo, and So-o Big. Baby may not understand all your words/signs, but he will understand your smiles, laughs, and playfulness.

Playing with toys provides an opportunity to expand vocabulary.

Give Baby words/signs for different concepts like big and small. If your infant is looking at a crib toy say and sign, "Look at the bird. The bird is yellow." Sign/say things again and again and again. Repetition is very important.

Make a scrap book of your baby's favorite people and things.

Talk/sign about the pictures that interest your infant. Be expressive. Keep eye contact. Then, pause long enough for your child to take a turn responding. Wait your turn to talk/sign.

Any place can be a place for effective communication.

Talk/sign in the bedroom, in the car, at the supermarket, at the doctor's office, and in the yard. Most of all, have fun with books! Your baby's first experiences with books, pictures, and printed words will influence his reading



Did You Know... Families can find support in many areas





Hands & Voices is a nationwide non-profit organization dedicated to supporting families and their children who are deaf or hard of hearing, as well as the professionals who serve them. We are a parent-driven, parent/professional collaborative group that is unbiased towards communication modes and methods. Our diverse membership includes those who are deaf, hard of hearing, and hearing impaired and their families who communicate orally, with signs, cue, and/or combined methods. We exist to help our children reach their highest potential.

California Hands & Voices' purpose is simply to provide a safe place to help families with children who are Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing connect to each other, and to empower those families to make informed decisions toward their goal of raising happy and successful children.

Find them on Face Book – California Hand & Voices
 Website at www.cahandsandvoices.org
 Or email them at info@CAHandsandVoices.org



Super ASL Family Day

FREE TO FAMILIES WITH DEAF CHILDREN

Enjoy a full day of fun activities designed to improve ASL skills & an opportunity for ASL experience outside the classroom



UN SÚPER DÍA DE ASL PARA TODA LA FAMILIA GRATIS PARA FAMILIAS CON HIJOS SORDOS

Disfrute de un día lleno de actividades interesantes para mejorar las destrezas en ASL

Una oportunidad para experimentar ASL afuera del aula.

Saturday, March 19
8:30 AM – 3:30 PM
California School for the Deaf
 Little Theatre Lobby & Library
 39350 Gallaudet Drive
 Fremont, CA 94538

Highlights

- Fun ASL Games
- ASL Skills
- Family Bonding Activities
- Role Playing Using Real Life Scenarios
- Panel with Parents: Signing with Your Child
 CSD's Deaf Studies Bilingual Teacher Specialist
- ASL/English/ Spanish Interpreters Provided
- Free Lunch for Participating Families
- Children's Program for ages 5 to 12 (all day)

El sábado, 19 de marzo
De 8:30 AM a 3:30 PM
En la escuela de California para sordos
 En la entrada al Teatro Pequeño/ en la Biblioteca
 39350 Gallaudet Drive
 Fremont, CA 94538

Atracciones principales

- Juegos divertidos con ASL
- Destrezas en ASL
- Actividades para hacer con toda la familia
- Haciendo papeles en situaciones de la vida real
- Panel con padres: Hablando en señas con su hijo
- (Tendremos intérpretes de ASL/Inglés y de español)
- Ofrecemos un almuerzo gratuito para todos!
- También tendremos: Un programa para niños de 5 a 12 años de edad (todo el día)



For more information about the event, contact: Cheryl Boyd at cboyd@cddf-cde.ca.gov



Para más información sobre este evento, contactar a Cheryl Boyd en cboyd@cddf-cde.ca.gov

RSVP to Virginia Foletta by post, fax, email or phone
 California School for the Deaf
 Outreach Division
 39350 Gallaudet Drive
 Fremont, CA 94538
 RE: Super ASL Family Day
 FAX : 510-794-2577
 Phone: 510-794-3707
vfoletta@cddf-cde.ca.gov

Please RSVP by 3:00 PM, Thursday, March 11

Name: _____
 Telephone: _____
 Email: _____
 # of Adults: _____ # of Children (Ages 5-12): _____

Responder a Virginia Foletta ya sea por correo, fax, email o por teléfono
 California School for the Deaf
 Departamento de extensión a la comunidad
 39350 Gallaudet Drive
 Fremont, CA 94538
 RE: Súper día de ASL para la familia
 FAX : 510-794-2577
 Teléfono: 510-794-3707
vfoletta@cddf-cde.ca.gov

Favor de responder antes de las 3pm del jueves 11 de marzo

Nombre: _____
 Teléfono: _____
 Email: _____
 # de adultos: _____ # de niños (de 5 a 12 años): _____



Parent Mentors

Parent mentors are parents of children who are deaf or hard of hearing. From hearing aids, cochlear implants, sign language and speech, we have been there. Have questions? Give us a call

Exceptional Parents Unlimited

Darla Schwehr

dschwehr@exceptionalparents.org

Vicky Olea

4440 N. First Street

Fresno, CA 93726

559-229-2000 x 208

Counties

Alameda, Contra Costa

Fresno, Kings

Madera, Mariposa

Merced, Monterey

San Benito, San Francisco

San Joaquin, San Mateo

Santa Clara, Santa Cruz

Stanislaus, Tulare

Family Focus Resource & Empowerment Center

Barbara Matusky

<mailto:barbara.matusky@csun.edu>

April Chauhan

<mailto:apryl.chauhan@csun.edu>

Irma Sanchez

<mailto:irma.sanchez@csun.edu>

18111 Nordhoff Street

Northridge, CA 91330

818-677-6854 Office

Counties

Imperial, Inyo

Kern, Los Angeles

Mono, Orange

Riverside, San Bernardino

San Diego, San Luis Obispo

Santa Barbara, Ventura

Rowell Family Empowerment Center

Kat Lowrance

sklowrance@aol.com

Barb Ciukowski

barbarac@rfenc.org

962 Maraglia Street

Redding, CA 96002

530-226-5129

Counties:

Alpine, Amador, Butte,

Calaveras

Colusa, Del Norte, Humboldt,

Lake, Lassen, Marin

Mendocino, Modoc

Napa, Nevada, Placer Plumas,

Sacramento, Shasta, Sierra,

Siskiyou

Solano, Sonoma, Sutter,

Tehama, Trinity

Tuolumne, Yolo, Yuba

Refer To Parent Links



How to Refer:

Go To

- **Professionals and Parents Make a Referral** at www.myparentslinks.com
- Fill out the interactive form
- E-Mail back or print out form and fax
- and fax
- Terms related to Hearing Loss
- IFSP- Infant Family Services Plan
- IEP- Individual Education Plan

It is now possible to refer to Parent Links online or by fax. California Department of Education program consultant for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing; Nancy Grosz Sager will receive the referral and forward it to the Parent Links area representative.

Who can Refer: Anyone including parents and professionals. Forms available in English/ Español