

eyes open ears on

EYES OPEN EARS ON HANDBOOK

GENERAL

46 MILLION WORDS

ALL ABOUT THE BRAIN

AUDITORY SKILL DEVELOPMENT

CHOICES IN COMMUNICATION

LEARN TO LISTEN SOUND PHRASES

ROUTINES

LING 6 SOUNDS

HEARTSFORHEARING.ORG

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46 MILLION WORDS



Did you know? Research proves again and again children must hear 46 million words by 4 years of age.

This will help children:

- Have a higher IQ
- Know the meaning of lots of words
- Improve skills to learn in school
- Improve the ability to succeed

Did you know? Research proves again and again children must hear many different kinds of words.



These words must occur:

- While playing together
- During routines
- Repeating what baby says

Without hearing these **46 million words**, babies and children may have trouble learning to read.

46 MILLION WORDS



WHAT CAN I DO?

- Baby must wear hearing technology during all waking hours – “Eyes open, ears on!”
- Follow-up with all audiology sessions. This will check if your baby's hearing has had changes and be sure baby can hear all the speech sounds.
- Follow-up with Listening and Spoken Language (LSL) sessions. This will help you learn to practice back and forth talking with your baby. You will also learn how to use lots of different words at home.

Babies must hear **MORE** words, but these words must be “extra talk.”

Business Talk

- "Stop that."
- "Get down."
- "Brush your teeth."
- "Finish your dinner."

Extra Talk

- "Look at the firetruck!"
- "What a big dog!"
- "Ice cream is so yummy!"
- "Who's my big girl?"

QUALITY VS QUANTITY

ALL ABOUT THE BRAIN



Did you know? Babies are born with their heart, their liver, and their lungs all working.

Every organ is working except the brain. Baby's brain is waiting on input from the outside world to begin to grow. For the brain to grow, it must receive lots of input from caregivers. This baby's brain will be 90% of its adult size by three years old. Our brains grow the most during the first 2 years of life.



What does that mean?

Babies brains will NOT grow without their caregivers taking care of them. Your baby must grow within the responsive care of you! Every time you snuggle baby, soothe their cries, feed and support their sleep you are growing your baby's brain. Every time your baby is not wearing their hearing technology are times that are missed for their brain to grow.

For more information, visit: 

www.CarolFlexer.com

ALL ABOUT THE BRAIN



What can I do?

- Be sure your baby wears hearing aids all the time while awake. Then you are sure baby can hear everything you say.
- Be responsive to your baby's cues --- is baby fussing? Crying? Happy? Answer all of these with words that describe how baby is feeling! A caregiver may say, "Are you needing a bottle? Are you hungry?"
- Commit to attending audiology sessions and Listening and Spoken Language (LSL) sessions.



References:

<http://www.ttac.odu.edu/articles/focuson3.html>

http://listeningandspokenlanguage.org/Early_Intervention_What_It_Is_and_Why_It_Is_Important/

AUDITORY SKILL DEVELOPMENT



Did you know? All areas of your baby's growth go through different stages.

Your baby will learn to hold their head up before learning to sit up. The same is true with your baby's listening skills. They will learn these skills in a very predictable fashion.

DETECTION → DISCRIMINATION → IDENTIFICATION → COMPREHENSION

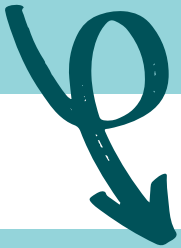
Your baby will progress through the stages of listening based on:

- Age
- The time it takes for your baby to receive hearing technology. The longer the time the longer it may take your baby to respond to sounds and voices.
- How well they can 'listen' with their current technology - maybe baby will need other technology such as a cochlear implant.
- Added findings may change your baby's progress. By working with your Listening and Spoken Language (LSL) provider, you will be able to understand the stages of listening that are happening with your baby.

AUDITORY SKILL DEVELOPMENT



DETECTION: This is the very first skill baby will develop. If they hear a noise or a voice they may hold still, or they may turn their head, or they may move toward the sound.



DISCRIMINATION: Your baby will learn to find what different sounds they hear. "Was that mommy's voice? Daddy's voice?" or hear the sound of a musical toy vs. the sound of brother crying.



IDENTIFICATION: Your child will identify different sounds from others such as "ahhhh" vs "sssss". Older children will be able to produce rhyming words.



COMPREHENSION: Your child will understand what words mean by:
Answering questions
Following directions
Talking with you

AUDITORY SKILL DEVELOPMENT



WHAT CAN I DO?

- Work closely with your Listening and Spoken Language (LSL) provider to learn more about the stages of listening.
- Stay aware of new skills your child makes and what skills you will be expecting them to get next.
- If your baby is a new listener:
 - Wear hearing technology during all waking hours “Eyes open, ears on!”
 - Point out and label new sounds
 - Be watchful to your baby’s responses to sounds. Here are some examples:
 - Are they responding to something new? Be sure to talk about what they hear while they hear it!
 - Are they responding to your voice from across the room compared to yesterday?



CHOICES IN COMMUNICATION



Did you know? Your baby's communication is at the heart of making relationships.

Since your baby has hearing loss, they will need extra help in learning how to communicate. As part of your journey you will learn how to teach your baby language.

What does this mean? There are 4 choices of communicating for babies and children with hearing loss:

**LISTENING AND SPOKEN LANGUAGE (LSL)
CUED SPEECH**

**TOTAL COMMUNICATION
AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE**

**AS YOUR
CHILD'S
FIRST
TEACHER**

Consider these questions:

- How do I want to talk and understand my child?
- Where do I want my child to be in school?
- How do I imagine my child talking with their friends and their family?

Consider these truths:

- You need access to experts who can teach you to teach your child.
- Your baby must hear or see 40 million words by the time they turn 4.
- Commit to one choice. The caregiver's pledge to the communication choice is important for your child's success in growing language.

CHOICES IN COMMUNICATION



Listening and Spoken Language

Hearing Technology?
YES

Aggressive
audiological
management

Talking? YES

Normal language
development

Primary language
model is parent
Parent Coaching

School of parent
choice

Available in OK? YES

Cued Speech

Hearing Technology?
YES

Talking? YES

Hand shapes around
the face

Available in OK? NO

Total Communication

Hearing Technology?
YES/NO

Talking? YES/NO

Talking/Signs in
exact English word
order
Sign word endings

Family speaks slow
due to signing

Schools utilizing TC
approach in OK

Available in OK? YES

American Sign Language

Hearing Technology?
NO

Talking? NO

ASL has its own word
order
Does not sign word
endings
Does not use
pronouns

Everyone involved
needs to sign to
communicate

School for the Deaf

Available in OK? YES

Own Culture

LEARNING TO LISTEN SOUNDS



Did you know? All areas of your baby's growth go through different stages.

Airplane "aaaahhh"

Car "vroom, beep-beep"

Boat "pu pu pu pu"

Motorcycle "mmmmmmm"

Cow "mmoooo"

Horse "(tongue click) neigh"

Chicken "brock-brock-brock"

Duck "quack-quack"

Pig "oink-oink"

Sheep "ba-a-a ba-a-a"

Dog "ruff-ruff"

Rabbit "hop-hop-hop"

Bird "tweet-tweet-tweet"

Cat "meeeooow"

Mouse "squeak squeak"

Fish "swish swish" (in a whisper)

Owl "whoooo whoooo"

Monkey "ee ee ee"

Clock "tick-tock" (in a whisper)

Water "pshhhh"

Sleeping "shhhhh"

Slide "weeeee!"

Eating "mmm mmmm"

Clown "ha ha ha"



ROUTINES



Did you know? Routines at home can improve your baby's listening and learning language.

What are routines?

DAILY ROUTINES

Eating
Dressing
Waking up
Going to bed
Bathing

PLAY ROUTINES

Play time with toys
and others
Singing songs
Family time
Playing outside

SOCIAL ROUTINES

Going to the store
Going to relatives' homes
Outside the home visits

Why are routines important?

- We all need a sense of routine, a way to get things done.
- Routines help babies with their "body clock":
 - Able to go to bed at night
 - Eat healthy full meals
 - Regular diaper schedule
 - Healthy play and outdoor time
 - Support a baby to be calm and relaxed during down times
- Routines provide babies and children a sense of security, especially if life seems more stressful.
- There is predictable language that caregivers use during routines and this builds on the baby's listening, understanding and talking.

ROUTINES



- Set up the important times such as mealtime, nap time, snack time and bedtime.
- Be patient! Setting a schedule may be hard at first.
- Add helpful elements to each routine such as snuggling every time you read a book together.
- Be flexible and adjust as needed! Baby's snack time might take place in the car instead of at home in their highchair.

LING 6 SOUNDS



Did you know? The Ling Six Speech Sound Test is one of the ways that the child's hearing aid or implant can be checked daily to make sure they are working properly.

The Ling Sound Test consists of the following six sounds:

"**a**" as in father

"**oo**" as in food

"**ee**" as in feet

"**sh**" as in shoe

"**s**" as in so

"**m**" as in mom



WHAT CAN
I DO?

- Present these sounds to your child every morning through listening only---do not let them see your mouth!
- If they are old enough, have them repeat the sound when they hear it.
- If your child misses one of the sounds or does not repeat it correctly, notify your child's auditory-verbal therapist or audiologist.

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