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## 10 Tips for Teaching Students with Hearing Loss

*"Helping children hear and learn... right from the start."*

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- **SEATING:** Allow the student to have flexible seating so he/she may move to where he/she can hear best, especially if you move around the classroom as you teach or sound is coming from audio visual equipment. Avoid seating this student close to the hallway, heaters, fans or other noise sources.
- **REPEAT & REPHRASE:** Always repeat or rephrase questions, key points or other information given by fellow students to help the child with hearing loss stay "tuned-in" for class participation.
- **KEEP it QUIET:** Try to make your classroom "listener friendly" by keeping the door shut, putting drapes on the windows and avoid necessary, distracting noise whenever possible.
- **ASSIGN a HEARING BUDDY:** The student with hearing loss may benefit from a hearing helper that can provide assistance when information is needed.
- **SIGNAL ALERT:** Provide a special signal(e.g. hand raise with the index finger pointed up) that the student can use during instruction to let you know he/she is having difficulty hearing.
- **VISUAL CUES:** Provide written information/visual media as much as possible, especially for assignments and new vocabulary to supplement what the student may miss due to hearing loss. Print out your class note and presentations for the student whenever possible.
- **KNOW YOUR TECHNOLOGY:** Always use assistive listening equipment provided for the student and check it daily for good sound quality. Use closed captioning whenever possible.
- **PREVIEW PLEASE:** When appropriate, send home upcoming assignment schedules, new vocabulary and concepts so students/families can be better prepared for new information during class.
- **MONITOR:** Instead of asking "Did you hear me?" ask, "What did you hear?". This will give you better feedback on what you student may be missing or mishearing.
- **HEARING CAN CHANGE:** Report concerns or questions that arise to the student's family right away!

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