



Setting Language in Motion: Family Supports and Early Intervention for Babies Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

Language Development Tips

The following is a summary of the key areas on which Module 6 is focused

Language Development Strategies

- Use language that is meaningful to the child.
- Repeat this language often.
- Use language to describe daily routines.
- Involve all caregivers in the child's life.
- Use picture books, photo albums, and/or experience books.
- Practice age-appropriate skills such as counting, ABC's, colors, and shapes.
- Add gestures, pictures, signs, and hands-on experiences.

Monitor Progress and Adapt the Approach as Needed

- Be an excellent observer and monitor comprehension.
- Assess how effectively these techniques are working.
- Conduct regular formal assessment with the child's educational team.

Tips for a Child Who has Access to Sound

- Encourage vocal play and babbling.
- Encourage the exploration of sounds.
- Take a 'sound tour' around the home or neighborhood.
- Make a sound experience book.
- Help the child learn to monitor his or her own loudness level.

MODULE SIX Promoting Communication in the Home

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- Identify and label sounds in the environment.

Tips for a Child Who has Access to Visual Language

- Encourage the visual exploration of the child's world.
- Take a 'visual tour' of the home or neighborhood.
- Encourage sign play and sign babbling.
- Encourage labeling the objects in the child's environment.
- Encourage imitation and expansion of sign expression.
- Make a sign experience book.

For Additional Resources

Please refer to the Module 6 video for more tips and information as well as for additional resources. Also, visit our websites at www.bostonchildrenshospital.org/dhdp and <http://clerccenter.gallaudet.edu>.