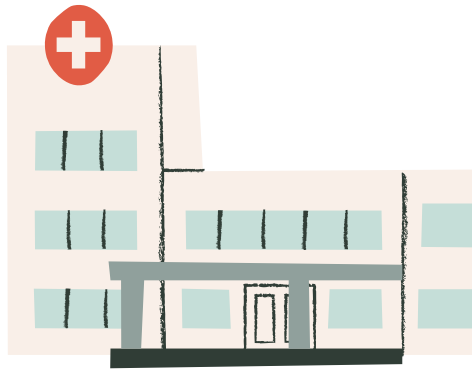


**Did Not Pass
Newborn Hearing
Screening**



**Full Hearing
Assessment**

HEARING LOSS ROADMAP

**Hearing Loss
Diagnosis**

**Follow-up
with
Pediatrician
for Referral**

**See Ear,
Nose and
Throat
Physician**

**Audiology
Follow-Up**

**Hearing Aid
Selection**

Discuss expectations
for hearing aid use.
Select style and color!

**Hearing Aid
Fitting**

Hearing aids are fit to
your child. Care and
maintenance is
reviewed.

**Obtain medical clearance for
hearing aids**

RESOURCES FOR PARENTS

BOOKS

Hello, Holland: The path to embracing your child's hearing loss

By: Beth Leipholtz

Through the Fog: Navigating life's challenges while raising kids with hearing loss

By: Valli Gideons

Understanding Childhood Hearing Loss: Whole Family Approaches to Living and Thriving (Whole Family Approaches to Childhood Illnesses and Disorders)

By: Brian J. Fligor Sc.D.

Magic Ear Kids: Stories of Parenting a Child with Hearing Loss

By: Joey Lynn Resciniti

Diary of a Hard of Hearing Kid

By: Isaiah John Baier



PODCASTS

Powering Potential by Hearing First

All Ears at Child's Voice

Raising a Child with Hearing Loss

Love & Language

SUPPORT

**Hands and Voices Rhode Island
(Support Group)**

**Parent/Infant/Toddler Program at
Rhode Island School for the Deaf
(Support Group)**

Hear My Dreams (Support Group)

BOOK LIST

HEARING AIDS

Princess Lizzie Wears Hearing Aids

By: Tosombra Kimes

All the Ways I Hear You

By: Stephanie Marrufo

**Super Kena: A Girl Made Fierce
with Hearing Aids**

By: Becky Cymbaluk, Carol
McAdoo Rehme, et al.

Gracie's Ears

By: Debbie Blackington

Can Bears Ski?

By: Raymond Antrobus

Super Hearing

By: Jennifer Whitehead and Emily
Reymann



IMPLANTABLE DEVICES

Mila Gets Her Super Ears

By: Ashley Machovec and Megan Jansen

**The adventures of Billie Baha and her Super HEARo
friends!**

By: Jessica Jordan-Hogan

SIGN LANGUAGE

Ada and the Helpers

By: Travis D. Peterson and Melissa Fischer

**My Monster Truck Goes Everywhere with Me:
Illustrated in American Sign Language**

By: Kathleen Marcath

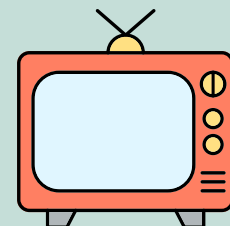
Duke the Deaf Dog ASL Series

By: Kelly Brakenhoff

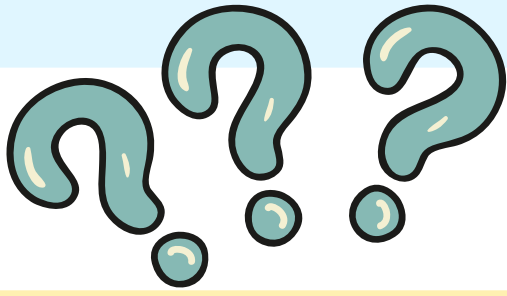
BOOK & TV

El Deafo

By: Cece Bell



YOUR CHILD HAS A



MILD
hearing loss

What Does This Mean?

A child with mild hearing loss can hear most speech sounds but is likely to miss parts of words.

He or she is more likely to miss the part of a word that contain "s," "f," and "th" sounds.

It will be difficult for them to hear soft voices as well as in noisy environments.

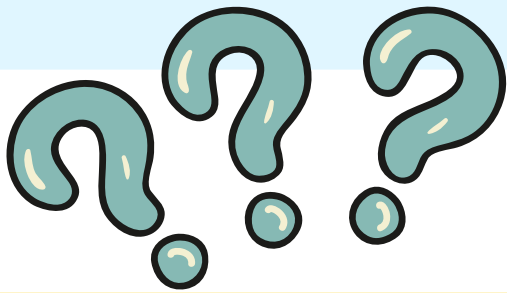
Even a mild hearing loss can impact speech and language development.

Hearing aids are recommended for children with mild hearing loss so they can hear all the sounds necessary for speech and language development.

With proper fitting hearing aids, a child with mild hearing loss is likely to understand all spoken words, even from a distance.

A child with mild hearing loss will be able to communicate through spoken language.

YOUR CHILD HAS A



MODERATE hearing loss

What Does This Mean?

A child with moderate hearing loss may miss 50 to 100% of speech sounds.

A child with moderate hearing loss will have difficulty hearing sounds that are close as well as those that are far away.

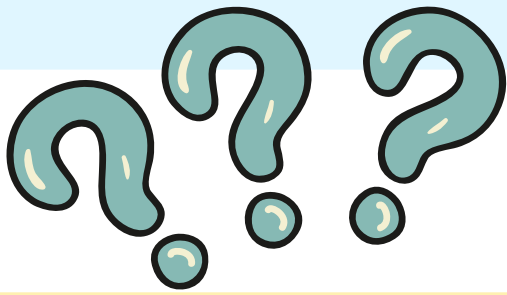
A moderate hearing loss will impact speech and language development.

Hearing aids are recommended for children with moderate hearing loss.

With proper fitting hearing aids, a child with moderate hearing loss should be able to hear most sounds at close distances.

In most cases, a child with moderate hearing loss will be able to effectively communicate through spoken language with the use of a hearing aid.

YOUR CHILD HAS A



MODERATELY SEVERE hearing loss

What Does This Mean?

A child with moderately-severe hearing loss cannot understand words unless they are very loud and the environment is quiet.

A child with moderately-severe hearing loss cannot hear speech without hearing aids.

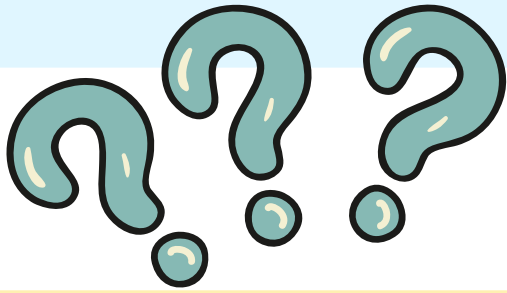
A moderately-severe hearing loss will impact speech and language development.

Hearing aids are recommended for children with moderately-severe hearing loss.

With proper fitting hearing aids, a child with moderate hearing loss should be able to hear most sounds at close distances.

In some cases, a child with moderately-severe hearing loss will be able to effectively communicate through spoken language with the use of a hearing aid. However, they may need additional assistance to use spoken language.

YOUR CHILD HAS A



SEVERE
hearing loss

What Does This Mean?

A child with severe hearing loss will be unable to hear any speech sounds at a normal levels, even in a quiet environment.

A child with severe hearing loss may only be aware of loud voices that are close to them.

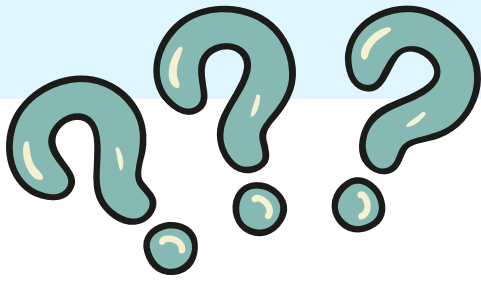
A severe hearing loss will impact speech and language development. Spoken language will not develop without therapy.

Hearing aids are recommended for children with severe hearing loss. Though a child with severe hearing loss may also be a candidate for a cochlear implant.

With proper fitting hearing aids, a child with severe hearing loss may be able to hear sounds of speech and identify environmental sounds, such as car horns.

Children with severe hearing loss may benefit from alternative communication options to spoken language, such as American Sign Language.

YOUR CHILD HAS A



PROFOUND
hearing loss

What Does This Mean?

A child with profound hearing loss has a total, or near total, loss of hearing.

A child with profound hearing loss will be unable to hear speech sounds, even in quiet environments.

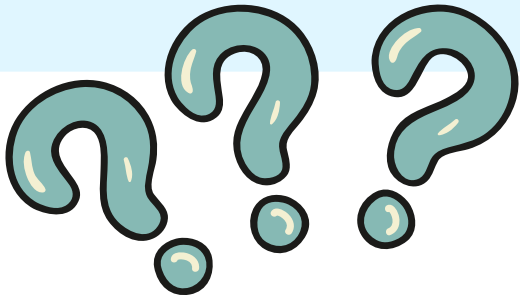
A profound hearing loss will impact speech and language development.

Hearing aids are recommended for children with profound hearing loss. Though a child with profound hearing loss may also be a candidate for a cochlear implant.

Even with proper fitting hearing aids or cochlear implants, a child with profound hearing loss will not develop spoken language without therapy.

Children with profound hearing loss may rely on sight rather than hearing as their primary means of communication. He or she may benefit from alternative communication options to spoken language, such as American Sign Language.

YOUR CHILD HAS A



UNILATERAL hearing loss

What Does This Mean?

A child with unilateral hearing loss has hearing loss in only ONE ear. The other ear hears normally.

The degree of hearing loss can vary from mild to profound.

A child with unilateral hearing loss may have difficulty determining what direction a sound is coming from.

A child with unilateral hearing loss may have more difficulty hearing in noisy environments than a child with normal hearing in both ears.

A child with unilateral hearing loss may be a candidate for a hearing aid or cochlear implant, depending on a variety of factors.

A child with unilateral hearing loss will be able to communicate through spoken language.

TYPES OF HEARING LOSS

Sensorineural Hearing Loss

Sensorineural hearing loss is the result of a problem in the inner ear or along the auditory nerve.

Sensorineural hearing loss cannot be corrected with medication or surgery. In most cases, hearing aids or cochlear implants are recommended to help a child hear better. Sensorineural hearing loss usually occurs in both ears, but one ear may be more affected than the other.



Conductive Hearing Loss

Conductive hearing loss is the result of a problem affecting the outer or middle ear. In most cases, conductive hearing loss is not permanent and can be treated with medical or surgical intervention.

Common causes of conductive hearing loss include ear infections, excess wax, fluid in the middle ear, or malformation of the middle ear structures.



Mixed Hearing Loss

Mixed hearing loss is the result of problems in both the inner ear and the outer or middle ear (sensorineural and conductive hearing loss together). With mixed hearing loss, the conductive loss may be managed with medical treatment. However, the sensorineural loss will not improve. In most cases, hearing aids are recommended to help a child hear better.

COMMUNICATION

FOR A BABY WITH HEARING LOSS

**HOW DO WE
COMMUNICATE
WITH OUR BABY?**

Talking is not the only way that parents communicate with their babies. And listening is not the only way babies communicate with their parents.

Whether your child can hear or not, most infants will first communicate by making sounds, smiling, crying, and using gestures like reaching and looking.

Parents recognize these behaviors as meaningful and reinforce these early attempts to communicate.



COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR CHILD...

with smiles, hugs and facial expressions

using baby sign language (or other visual language)

by looking at each other, looking at things together, and playing together

singing songs that include gestures and talking with your child

Making eye contact is especially important for infants with hearing loss

WHY ARE HEARING AIDS BEING RECOMMENDED?

Due to your child's hearing loss your child will not be able to hear **all** the sounds needed to develop speech and language skills.

Without hearing aids, your child will have difficulty hearing sounds clearly.

Hearing aids will provide additional volume to all the sounds in your child's environment, including speech sounds.

This extra volume will allow your child to hear the sounds needed to develop speech and language.

The benefit hearing aids will provide is different for each child and can be discussed in more detail with your child's audiologist.

Hearing aids do not give your child normal hearing.



HEARING LOSS

BY THE NUMBERS

of babies with hearing loss
in both ears,

71.7% of babies have sensorineural
hearing loss

7.9% of babies have conductive
hearing loss

9% of babies
who fail
their hearing
screening have
permanent
hearing loss

For every 1,000 babies screened for
hearing loss, 1.8 are diagnosed
permanent hearing loss



More than 90%
of deaf
children are
born to hearing
parents



About 70% of
all genetic
causes
of hearing
loss are
non-syndromic

WANT MORE INFORMATION?

HEARING LOSS

Rhode Island Medical
Home Portal



Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention



Rhode Island Early Hearing Loss
Detection and Identification



HEARING AIDS

Supporting success for
Children with Hearing Loss



Phonak Hearing Aid



Oticon Hearing Aid

