

IEP Accommodations

considerations for a child who is deaf or hard of hearing

AMPLIFICATION

- **Use an FM/DM system.** These systems enable a student to hear the speaker better in noisy environments.
- **Perform a daily Ling sound check.** This is a quick and easy way to ensure each hearing device is working.
- **Provide staff in-service/s.** Training for staff who come in contact with the student promotes awareness/understanding and ensures the student has access to sound and quality instruction throughout each day.
- **Provide a cheat sheet.** Making a device less intimidating increases the likelihood a teacher will consistently use it.

ENVIRONMENT

- **Alter the room by adding:**
 - tennis balls on chair legs
 - cork boards on walls
 - carpet on floors
 - **Seat the child away from loud sound sources.** Poor acoustics affect speech perception, attention, behavior and academic performance.
 - **Seat the child near the source of instruction.** Noise masks important parts of speech and language.
 - **Make the speaker visible. Consider lighting.** Proximity to the teacher helps maintain the student's attention.
- Students who are deaf and hard of hearing often rely on visual support, especially when they are missing auditory information.

ROUTINES

- **Provide a visual schedule.** A visual schedule helps a student know what to anticipate. It also helps when they miss routine directions.
- **Provide a checklist for daily tasks.** Using checklists fosters self-advocacy skills.
- **Take breaks.** Listening can be overwhelming and exhausting.

INSTRUCTION

- **Pre-teach vocabulary.** Students who are deaf and hard of hearing require direct vocabulary instruction and multiple opportunities to hear and use new words.
 - **Provide filled-in or partially filled-in notes.** Notes help the student keep up with a fast-paced classroom.
- **Check often for understanding. Avoid yes/no questions.** Use open-ended questions to gauge comprehension. Students who are deaf and hard of hearing can "slip through the cracks" by appearing to be following along even when they're not.
- **Gain student's attention before instructing or giving directions.** Ensure the student is attending and does not miss information.
- **Provide captioning for videos.** Captions give visual support for auditory information missed.

ASSIGNMENTS / TESTING

- **Write assignments on the board.** Visual notes support students who did not hear assignments given aloud.
- **Provide study guides for tests.** Students with hearing loss are likely to miss information during instruction. Study guides serve as a reference for missed content.
- **Share vocabulary, objectives and assignments with other teachers/specialists/parents.** Team collaboration is essential for success.