



## QUICK START - PRACTICAL STRATEGIES FOR DAYCARE PROVIDERS OF INFANTS WITH HEARING LOSS

### Support Daily Full-time Use of Amplification Devices

- If the child's eyes are open then hearing aids, cochlear implants, etc. need to be turned on and on the child's ears
- Use retention devices: headbands, caps, critter clips, toupee tape, etc.

### Complete Daily Hearing Aid/Cochlear Implant Equipment Check

- Use items in the child's hearing aid check kit such as hearing aid stethoscope
- All family members should be trained by their child's audiologist to learn how to check the child's hearing aid, cochlear implant, etc. to be certain the device is working and the child has access to sound
- -ask your audiologist about the Ling sounds (ah, oo, ee, sh, s, m)  
- change batteries/charge batteries as needed  
- check to be certain the earmold/tubing is not clogged with wax, is cracked, or is too hard
- Make sure the device is worn properly

### Draw Attention to Environmental Sounds

- When a sound occurs, point to your ear, label the sound and imitate the sound



### Be Aware of the Negative Impact of Distance On the Child's Access to Sound/Speech

- 3 feet of distance or less is optimal for access to communication
- Voice volume decreases by 6 decibels of loudness every 3 feet of distance from the child

### Make/Gain Eye Contact

- Before speaking to the child, get the child's attention
- Don't look away while talking
- Keep your lips visible while talking

### Be Aware of and Reduce Background Noise

- For example: TV/electronic noise, computer noise, fans, noise sources from outside of the room, etc

### Provide a Language Rich Environment for the Child

- Use a radio commentator strategy: narrate the child's day/emotions - tell the child what you are doing, why, and how
- Sing songs and read books with the child
- Use a variety of intonation patterns - change your tone of voice

### Support the Use of Sign Language

- Sign language may help to support language development and decrease frustration levels.

FOR FURTHER SUPPORT, INFORMATION OR TO OBTAIN A HEARING AID CHECK KIT, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHILD'S AUDIOLOGIST OR THE WYOMING EHI PROGRAM (307) 721-6212 OR [INFO@WYOMINGEHI.ORG](mailto:INFO@WYOMINGEHI.ORG)