

## **Children with Hearing Loss: Tips for Good Communication at Home**

Preferential seating/flexible seating

- In direct line of your voice and in full view of your face
- Seat child way from noise sources (doors, hallway, sinks, heater, pencil sharpeners)
- Minimize background noise

Face your child when speaking

Avoid standing with your back to a window or other light source

Gain your child's attention before speaking

Speak clearly in a natural voice and at a natural pace

- Avoid exaggerated lip movements
- Use natural gestures and body language

Use visual clues, gestures, key words, pictures, charts, and written directions

Rephrase instead of repeating a misunderstood question or direction

Check for comprehension

 Be aware many people with hearing loss will nod "yes" when they do not actually understand

Encourage your child to take responsibility for developing listening strategies

- Modify the listening environment (move closer to the speaker/teacher)
- Clarify auditory information (request repetition or simplification if necessary)

Contact your school audiologist with any questions and concerns