



# Supporting Success for Children with Hearing Loss

Mission: To improve the futures of children with hearing loss.  
Resources for Professionals and Parents

## MARCH 2012 UPDATE

Karen L. Anderson, Director

This 'go-to' site for professional and parent resources has been up for only 4 months and has grown to 3300 visitors in the past month, almost 60% of them new to the site and an additional 125 more people have signed up to receive these monthly updates (575 now)! Forward this update to share [Supporting Success](#) with parents and colleagues!

### **CONSULTATION – Know someone with a question who needs to talk to an experienced professional?**

Whether you are a parent seeking advice and an outside perspective or a professional searching for ideas to better meet student needs, consultation services are a convenient, personalized and caring resource. Sample that parent and professional questions are posted as are the Consultant's qualifications. **Pass the word....**



### **WHAT'S NEW?**



It was exhilarating for me to participate in Wisconsin's impressive conference for professionals and families. It was exciting to see the professionals networking and also the families getting to know one another. My concern has been growing about how families struggle to keep hearing aids on their young children. Having consistent hearing (and language input) in the first year of life provides the foundation for development of trust and confidence. This month I added new page to inform families on topics related to their child's hearing aids and why consistent wear is important.

### **New resources**

#### **Families**

- [Hearing Aids & Your Child](#) This page has now been added to the Parent Resources list of topics. It specifies the 3 main reasons for children to wear their hearing aids consistently. It provides links to address the questions "What are hearing devices and what do they do?" A link to Setting Reasonable Expectations about Hearing Aid Wear was included. I spent time pulling together resources that describe hearing aid listening checks and am pleased to include the video developed by the National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management. I also popped a short video in that shows hearing aid troubleshooting.



## Families & Professionals

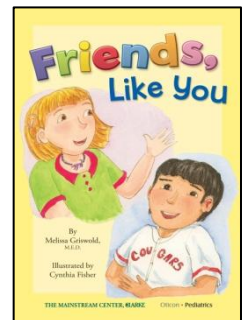
- Last month I introduced the page [Social Needs & “I hate my hearing aids!”](#) . I’ve received many positive comments from professionals and am excited about the response to the link between psychosocial development and school-age children’s feelings about fitting in, including their willingness to wear their hearing devices. As a follow up, I’ve developed [Early consistent hearing: building trust & confidence](#). This NEW resource page shares insights into the psychosocial need for young children to receive consistent auditory input. It encourages families to explore the size of their child’s listening bubble so that they are aware of how close they need to be so their child can ‘catch language.’ The insights on psychosocial development should be of interest to any professional who works with families of young children.



- I hope you have had a chance to review some or all of the materials on the page [Demonstrations: Simulated Listening with Hearing Loss & Devices](#). I think it is really neat that there are also simulations of listening with a cochlear implant and with auditory neuropathy spectrum disorder. I was pleased to come across an effective video produced by Jane Madell and the Wyoming Pediatric Audiology Project. Perfect to share with teachers, this video shows a boy in a classroom whose teacher forgets to put on the FM transmitter and then remembers to turn it on. The boy’s behavioral responses are classic! It is on the Demonstrations page, first listing under the [Recordings Demonstrating Listening Benefit Provided by FM Use](#) section.

## NEW THIS MONTH! Go to our [Catalog](#)

[Friends, Like You](#) is a 30-page book about Molly and Max, two regular kids who happen to have hearing loss. The book is great for children with hearing loss to read about other kids who have hearing devices as they play, live and go to school. It is also an ideal tool for teachers to read (and read to their classes!) as it raises awareness about hearing loss and promoting friendships in mainstream settings. This inexpensive book can be purchased alone or as part of a kit with an Activity Book and Educator’s Guide. This book is the first of a number of products from Clarke Schools for Hearing and Speech that I am excited to sponsor. Clarke has long been an advocate for addressing the needs of children with hearing loss – especially social needs. A hearty welcome Clarke, to *Supporting Success for Children with Hearing Loss!*



**By a Teacher** - A hearing specialist gave my student, Julie, a copy of **Friends, Like You** to take home and read with her brother. It was suggested that maybe I would read it to the class if she didn't want to. At first Julie wanted me to read it and I started to, but then she took over and the result was almost magical. Her fellow students listened to her quite intently. When she was done they asked her respectful questions. She answered them without hesitation or embarrassment. The dialogue that ensued was very powerful. I could tell that Julie felt confident and that her peers had a deeper insight into their classmate. "Friends, Like You" provided an opportunity for communication about Julie that I could never have achieved just by chatting with my students.  
4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher

## Just in time for End-of-Year Spend-down



To make purchasing *Supporting Success* products easier for schools, you can now find a **Purchase Order Form for Schools** and FAX number on the [Catalog](#) page. ***Building Skills for Success in the Fast-Paced Classroom*** is on sale for quantity book prices ending April 30th!

*'I've started your book and it is wonderful! I love that it is so current and focuses on the word "access". I love that the rating scales and so much other info is very recently dated. I love that you address the "new" H.I. student. Is this book being marketed to Audiology and deaf education training programs? It needs to be – especially deaf education programs!' Teacher of the Deaf/Hard of Hearing*

## Highlighted Resource of the Month

About ¼ of all children identified with permanent hearing loss following newborn hearing screening have hearing loss in only one ear! [Hearing Loss in One Ear](#) is a brief handout designed for parents (the first page is great for teachers) that provides simple to understand language describing why hearing loss in one ear puts children at such risk for learning and social difficulties.



**Thanks** again to all of you who are new to *Supporting Success* and to those of you who have returned many times. I welcome your communication and encourage you to [submit suggestions](#) for resources you need and how we can grow to better support the success of children with hearing loss. – Karen

<http://successforkidswithhearingloss.com>