

# Monthly Updates

## Supporting Success for Children with Hearing Loss December 2012

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Forward this update to share [Supporting Success](#) with parents and colleagues!



It is hard to believe that winter and the holiday season is upon us! Those of you working for the schools or university have a short month, so I thought I would provide a short update with special gifts!

### WHAT'S NEW FOR DECEMBER?

#### 3 RESOURCES

#### 1 PRODUCT

**Resource 1** As I travel around the country and Canada it is exciting and very rewarding to discuss the benefits of the revised Listening Inventory For Education. Although the e-version has been available since September it is clear that many professionals continue to use the convenient [paper version](#).



There has been much praise for the revision of the LIFE questions and the addition of the Before and After LIFE questions but paper version users lamented the lack of photos to go along with the student appraisal questions. A **5-page paper LIFE-R student appraisal picture/question has now been posted on the [LIFE-R webpage](#)**.

The first 4 pages include the 15 student appraisal questions, representative photos and rating choices. The final page contains a chart for summarizing the results and includes the student's name, date, school so you can print off just the one page and include it in the student's file or assessment report. The best news, **this is a fillable form** that can be used on your computer or media tablet or you can print it out and have the student X his choices and transfer the results to the Summary at the end. For those of you who do not have internet access at your schools, this is the next best thing to being able to use the e-version of the LIFE-R!

A screenshot of the Listening Inventory for Education (LIFE-R) student appraisal form. The form is titled "Listening Inventory for Education" and "Life Student Appraisal". It includes fields for "Student:", "Grade:", "Date:", and "School:". Below these fields, there are three questions, each with a corresponding photo of a classroom scene. Each question has five rating choices: "Always Easy", "Mostly Easy", "Sometimes Difficult", "Mostly Difficult", and "Always Difficult". The questions are: 1. The teacher is talking in front of the class. The kids are quiet. Everyone is watching and listening to the teacher. How well can you hear and understand the words the teacher is saying? 2. The teacher is talking, but has his back to you as she writes on the board or faces another student. You cannot see the teacher's face. How well can you hear and understand the words the teacher is saying when you can't see his face? 3. The teacher is talking, she is also walking and moving around the room. How well can you hear and understand the words the teacher is saying if you can't see her face and she is across the room?

For those of you who have used the e-LIFE-R, your **feedback is needed** so that we can make needed revisions to the online LIFE-R as soon as possible. We would like to make the final version available in a CD version in 2013 for those individuals who do not have reliable internet service when they work with students. You still have a few weeks to take advantage of the [LIFE-R webcast](#), available at no cost through December!

**Resource 2** I'm pleased to receive questions from parents and professionals dealing with issues related to student's eligibility, services or supports within the school setting. Specific to the US, I've developed a new webpage titled [IEP Issues and IDEA Law Information](#). The information provided has been gleaned from [www.idea.ed.gov](#) and consists of specific sections of IDEA and commentary/discussion from their website to assist in interpretation. Topics include: (1) Eligibility, (2) FM/Speech-to-Text Translation (assistive technology), (3) Models of DHH Service, and (4) Hearing Loss/Hearing Aids.

This is a resource that is available through both the Parent and Professional resources and has been written specifically to assist individuals in understanding the IDEA underpinnings that should influence decisions for students.



**Resource 3** Following a brisk discussion on the Educational Audiology Association listserv, a wonderful PowerPoint presentation is now available



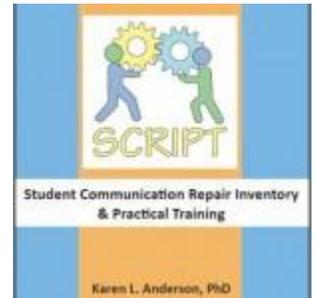
on *Supporting Success for Children with Hearing Loss*. Titled What you need to know about student's hearing technology for classroom listening, this 43-slide presentation provides information on types of equipment, listening checks, troubleshooting equipment and answers miscellaneous questions. It is ideal to use as a guide when inservicing the classroom

teacher or updating the knowledge of teachers of the deaf/hard of hearing. The pdf form of the PPT and the 8-page PPT handout (6 slides/pg) are both available at <http://successforkidswithhearingloss.com/inservicing-the-classroom-teacher>. It also provides valuable information to families on school listening issues and technology. Many thanks to audiologists Gwen Severance and Patty Klein for sharing this resource!



### **NEW PRODUCT! [SCRIPT: Student Communication Repair Inventory & Practical Training](#)**

**What is the SCRIPT?** An Inventory to assess current communication repair skills and then a step-by-step training program with a complete description of what to do, video that shows how to do it and ready-made materials to use with your students. When working many years ago with students who were hard of hearing I knew that they responded differently than their class peers when communication broke down but how to help them learn the *skills* to repair these breakdowns seemed very vague. Finally we have a way to assess baseline communication repair skills as part of a student assessment. The bare bones of this material is in Chapter 4 in *Building Skills for Success in the Fast-Paced Classroom*. It has been completely revised to provide simpler, better explained steps, new topical Inventory stimuli and best of all, with the help of the wonderful professionals at Listen and Talk in Seattle, there are video clips that show how to do the Inventory and the Practical Training steps with 3 students (ages 6, 9, 12).



The DVD contains the videos, 105-page color manual, fillable SCRIPT Inventory Response Form plus 22 pdfs of the most frequently used student materials. Refer to the [SCRIPT webpage](#) for more detail and to see short sample videos. The SCRIPT can be purchased as just the DVD (\$35.50) or with a black/white manual plus the DVD (\$45.50). I enjoyed presenting the SCRIPT at the ASHA conference in November – it isn't just for students with hearing loss!

### **Thanks to all of you who have contacted me with questions about the Interact-AS Speech-to-Text translation software!**

It has been very rewarding to receive so much interest. Quite a few schools are now undergoing trial periods using the software on a laptop with their student. Keep the questions coming! A low-cost trial period makes it easy to explore for students [or staff with hearing loss](#). Information is available to help consider whether a [student may be a candidate](#) for having a laptop or iPad on his desk providing captions of what the teacher said, about 1-2 seconds after she said the words (about 95% accuracy). [A Speech-to-Text Readiness](#)

[Checklist](#) has been developed to assist school teams in this consideration.

### **Highlighted Resources of the Month**

- Are you new to checking hearing aids or help train parents or teachers in how to monitor hearing aid function? The resources at [Parent Resources -> Hearing Aids and Your Child](#) may be very helpful! Along with handouts on Brain Development and 'Language is Caught, Not Taught' you will find brief 'how to' instructions in English and in Spanish and a link to a full training video on how to perform a hearing aid listening check.
- Even though they've been around for years, some people are still discovering the [Relationship of Hearing Loss to Listening and Learning](#) Needs handouts. There are specific handouts for each of 9 degrees/types of hearing loss (including unilateral, high frequency, cookie bite and fluctuating). You can download each individually or all as one long handout. The long handout is available in Spanish too!

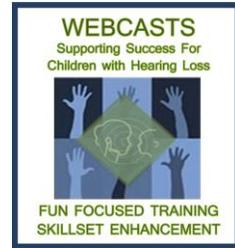


## Supporting Success WEBCASTS

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Technical difficulties with the webcast service provider have impacted getting more webcasts up and running. We now have 4 webcasts available:

- [\*\*\*Supporting School Entry/Transition Using the Starting School LIFE and CHILD Checklists\*\*\*](#)
- [\*\*\*Assessing Student Classroom Listening Challenges and Strategies: Introducing LIFE-R\*\*\*](#)
- [\*\*\*Listen to Learn: Estimating Access to Verbal Instruction\*\*\*](#)
- [\*\*\*Understanding Children's Aided Hearing using the Desired Sensation Level Approach\*\*\*](#)



[\*\*\*Building Skills for Success in the Fast-Paced Classroom\*\*\*](#) It has been so fun for me to meet with groups at district-sponsored workshops to lead them through the extensive resources provided in this book! It not only helps to familiarize folks with the resources it provides opportunities for teachers to talk together about who/how/when they would use the tools. I've enjoyed meeting teachers who show me their book filled with tabs and folders of ready-to-use handouts! It seems a symbol of dedicated use when the book falls apart! Many teachers have reported being able to go to their local FedEx or UPS store to have the binding cut off and to get the pages 3-hole punched (about \$5). I know I've had to do this and find that having the contents in a 3-ring binder works great! Thanks to all for really USING this resource!



### ***HAPPY HOLIDAYS!***

**Thanks** again to all of you who are new to *Supporting Success* and to those of you who have returned many times. I'm pleased that there are now about 1300 subscribers to the monthly updates and 4400 unique visitors per month. 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

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