



Monthly Update

Supporting Success for Children with Hearing Loss

May 2013

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

Welcome to May– we are into the final weeks of the school year already! I appreciate your tapping into *Supporting Success* for resources and hope that you enjoyed the April update including information on [Self-Concept: How the Child with Hearing Loss Sees Himself](#) for families and [Self-Concept: Assessment & Strategies for Adolescents](#) and [Helmets & Hearing Aids / Processors](#).

With the end of the school year comes planning for next year! We hope that you find SSCHL information and products helpful as you work with children who are deaf or hard of hearing or their families. Work behind the scenes will continue throughout the summer to increase and improve the resources provided by *Supporting Success*.

PREVIEW OF WHAT IS COMING!

- The e-version of the Listening Inventory For Education ([LIFE-R](#)) will become available on USB drive and CD – for sale at conferences and via the website starting the end of June. You will then be able to take advantage of all the functionality of the LIFE-R without having to be on the internet. The price of this valuable resource will be low thanks to support from our manufacturer partners in this venture. Thanks to all of you who provided feedback on LIFE-R improvements!
- Although it is still in the planning stage, we anticipate having a paid membership or “Supporting Success Club” type of option starting in September that will provide offerings of grab-and-go student/teacher activities throughout the school year. Very reasonable individual and district/agency membership rates will be available. More details will be available in the August Update. Free resources will continue to be added to the SSCHL website and Updates will still go to all of you who are currently subscribers to the Updates.



WHAT'S NEW FOR MAY?



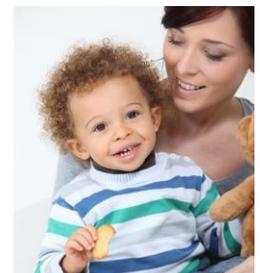
- With more products and more international orders a more efficient way to check out was needed. Despite some early challenges, it is now easier for you to select the products you are interested in purchasing without as much back-and-forth action on the website.
- There is also a new [Purchase Order Calculator](#) page for obtaining specific totals for purchase orders, figuring international shipping and for those of you who want to know what your ‘wish list’ will total.

NEW RESOURCES

Families



- Self-confidence is rooted in early experiences. [Building your child's self-confidence](#) provides great ideas for families to keep in mind as they interact with their young child. Downloadable handout too!
- Sign language is the preferred choice for some families and/or the best mode of learning for some children. It isn't always easy to learn though within a busy family's schedule. The [Communication – whatever fits your child and family](#) page now includes a link to [information about the Baobob App](#) designed by Gallaudet University. It is the first of a series of three bilingual storybook apps, developed to help language acquisition and reading in all young children; in particular for those who are deaf and



hard of hearing. This app is unique since it was built upon findings of extensive research done on both hearing and deaf bilinguals. Past research demonstrated that early visual language experience with ASL aids reading acquisition in English and offers other important advantages for a deaf child's linguistic, communicative, cognitive, academic, literacy, and psychosocial development.

Professionals and Families

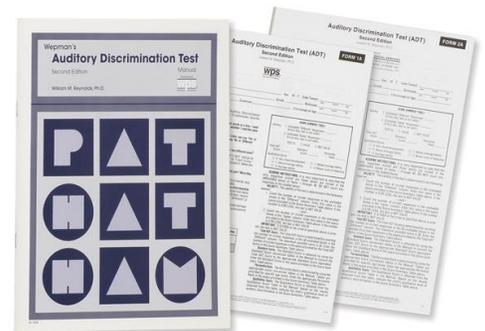
- **SELF-CONCEPT in Young Children.** Last month a new section of the webpage was added discussing self-concept. The page [Self-Concept: How the Child with Hearing Loss Sees Himself](#) introduced the foundations of self-concept development and provided 10 steps to help a child develop a positive self-concept. This month more information was added to the page: [Self-Concept: Infants, Toddlers, Preschoolers](#). Stages of self-concept development for 0-2 years, 3-4 years, and for 5-6 year-olds are briefly presented and a more detailed handout is available for download. The power of PRAISE is explained in building the self-concept of little ones!

Professionals

- **[Ideas for Assessing Benefit of Interact-AS!](#)** It has been very gratifying to see different school districts explore using Interact-AS with their students. Although it doesn't work in every case, there have been many purchases of the permanent software for student use. As districts go through the trial period I sometimes receive requests for how benefit of this accommodation could be identified. I've provided ideas on the new page. Please share yours!
- **New information on children with unilateral hearing loss.** The findings of an article in the International Journal of Pediatric Otorhinolaryngology reviewed all of the literature on UHL from 1986. The analysis led to some important findings, which have now been included on the [Unilateral and Mild Hearing Loss in Young Children](#) webpage.

NEW PRODUCT!

After being a believer for many, many years, it is exciting to be offering the [Wepman Auditory Discrimination Test](#). Normed on almost 2000 typically developing children ages 4-8 years, this quick (5 min) test is powerful in that it provides the ability to compare a student's fine auditory discrimination skills with that of peers typical of his age-group. With an increasing number of students with hearing loss in the mainstream who appear 'just fine' on basic assessment tests, this provides a 'working world view' of how a simple activity of being able to tell same/different when asked to listen to a pair of words (bed/bug; led/led). I've mentioned the ADT in many presentations over the years as I believe it to be a 'staple' when assessing the skills of a mainstreamed student who is hard of hearing.



Planning for next year? Discuss providing an Interact-AS trial period in the Fall.

I had two good experiences with Interact-AS this month. First, I presented at a workshop in the Toronto, Ontario area and used Interact-AS while I was presenting. It worked successfully, captioning what I said while I used the sound field amplification system that was made available. Second, Robert Palmquist from Auditory Sciences (developer of Interact-AS) and I gave another webinar, this time to educators in California. Good information and good questions! The more I hear Rob describe what the Interact-AS software can do, the more impressed I am! **I would be happy to speak with you about your student and your situation** ([email](#) or phone 850-363-9909). More webinars will be available in the Fall!



Highlighted Resources of the Month

- It is understandably difficult for families to understand why it is so critical to intervene as early as possible with amplification devices, or if the child is deaf and the parents choose sign language, why it is necessary to surround the child with access to auditory or visual language. The page [Ready or Not- Your Child has a Hearing Loss! Explaining the Urgency](#) contains a summary of information about brain development along with the handouts: *My Child has Permanent Hearing Loss – Now What?; Brain Development & Hearing Loss; and Hearing Aids – What, When, Why, How.*
- For your end of the year IEP meetings you might want to take along one or both of the Accommodations guides provided on the [Accommodations for Students with Hearing Loss](#) webpage. *Children with Hearing Loss – Helpful Adaptations in the School Environment* and *Accommodations for Students with Hearing Loss* both have printable handouts to make them easy for you to keep in your grab-and-go folder!



Supporting Success [WEBCASTS](#)

After having months of challenges with developing new webcasts, more will be created for viewing by the start of next school year! **Hooray!** Interested in presenting a webcast? Please contact me!

Need ideas for professional development at your team meetings for next school year? Consider viewing webcasts for professional development and to aid in discussion about how your team can

update practices.

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 over 1730 subscribers to the monthly updates with over 11,00 visits by more than 8200 unique visitors in April, 63% of which are new to the site! Thanks for taking advantage of these resources to support the children with hearing loss in your life!



Enjoy your

and



and look for the next update in



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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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