

3. Sensory Considerations for Learners with Visual & Hearing Loss, Multisensory Learning

3E: Implications of Hearing Conditions for Learning

Strategies to support learners with hearing conditions include:



- Position the learner so they are close to the instruction

Strategies to support learners with hearing conditions include:



- Gain the learners attention & eye contact before speaking

Strategies to support learners with hearing conditions include:

- Use short sentences
- If the child uses sign language, remember to sign everything, not just when you are speaking to that child.



Strategies to support learners with hearing conditions include:

- Use facial expression & body language to reinforce speech



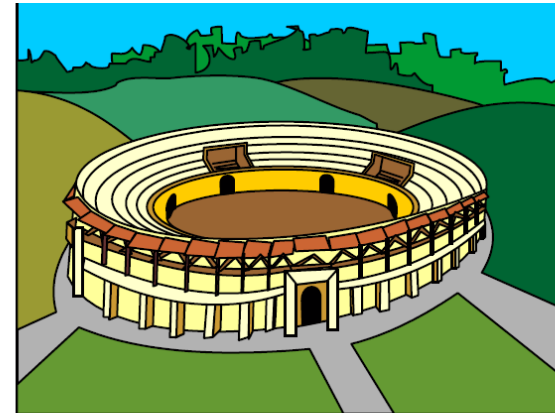
Strategies to support learners with hearing conditions include:

- Give the learner the opportunity/strategy to check their understanding - ask for a repetition of instructions/question etc.



Strategies to support learners with hearing conditions include:

- Use visual cues to support the spoken word i.e. pictures, symbols, written word, signs.



Roman



Pastimes

by



Strategies to support learners with hearing conditions include:

- Be aware of concentration fatigue
- Reduce background noise - close the classroom door, use soft furnishings/carpet to reduce classroom noise.
- Is the learner positioned in a way so that they can see their peers during a lesson or learning activity?



The functional effects of a hearing condition on learning

Here is a simple guide to functional effects of hearing loss and what this means for the learner in your classroom.

A learner may experience difficulty with:

- Understanding and using more abstract words (before/shy/same as) but use concrete words successfully (jump/red/two)
- Understanding multiple meanings of the same word i.e. bark - the noise a dog makes or the outside of a tree trunk?

The functional effects of a hearing condition on learning

- Sentence formation - particularly understanding and using longer, complex sentences
- Saying sounds correctly, especially quieter ones such as s/f/sh
- Contributing to and keeping up with class discussion, as their self-confidence may be poor and the increased effort involved in hearing and processing a fast moving discussion will produce fatigue

The functional effects of a hearing condition on learning

- Poor behaviour - not being able to follow what is happening in class/verbal instructions can lead to distraction/poor concentration & reduced engagement
- Inappropriate answers to questions - indicating a learner's difficulty in following the class discussion fully
- Frustration/Peer isolation/lack of friendship groups