

Count 1-3-6 Steps to Open the Door to Your Child's Language and Early Learning



By 1 Month

Newborn Hearing Screening

Can your baby hear every sound?

- Newborns should receive several screenings to rule out serious conditions at birth.
- Can your baby hear well? Ask for a *hearing screening* at birth. The screening will show if your baby's ears are receiving all sounds.
- Most babies sleep right through the fast screening process.
- **Use EHDI-PALS to find local facilities for hearing tests.**

By 3 Months

Know for Sure - Diagnostics

Complete testing with a Pediatric Audiologist

- If your baby doesn't pass the screening in one or both ears, get a full hearing test by someone with special training & equipment who works with babies by three months of age. (Pediatric Audiologist)
- Why the hurry? Babies can avoid sedation with early testing and you'll be helping your baby in a period of rapid brain growth.
- ***This is a great time to connect with other parents who have children who are deaf/hard of hearing and meet Deaf/hard of hearing adults.***



By 6 Months

Begin Early Intervention-The Key

Qualified experts in early childhood hearing loss

- All babies identified with hearing loss in one or both ears should receive critical language and developmental services by 6 months of age.
- "EI" support from birth to age three can help a child enter school with skills on track with typically hearing children.
- Families can enroll as soon as a hearing loss is identified.
- Signing a release of information helps professionals support you in getting your baby to the next step.
- ***Contact your local EI Coordinator (at the link below) and ask for experienced birth-to-three providers in your area.***

"Early intervention changed our daughter's life. We are grateful for the early identification and the team who surrounded our family." *A parent of a child with hearing loss*

- Find more information at www.handsandvoices.org
- Find EHDI-PALS here: <http://ehdipals.org/>
- Early Intervention at <http://ectacenter.org/contact/ptccoord.asp>
- Connect with experienced parents at parentadvocate@handsandvoices.org
- Find your local EHDI program at <http://www.infantheating.org/states/index.html>
- Data Questions? Contact the Centers for Disease Control site at <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/hearingloss>
- **Giving consent to share data will assist EHDI programs in getting you to the services you need.**

