

Strategies to Support Listening; Introduction

Remember that these listening games are to help deaf children to learn listening skills that they can use in daily life so they must all be related to tasks that occur in the classroom or other situations. They are a means to an end not an end in themselves. They may help to identify where children are having difficulties and also what can be expected of them e.g. in phonics / listening to learn etc.

Linking Listening to Language

There are many games that can be used to help to develop specific aspects of syntax (grammar), but the most effective is to use mature syntax in conversation and to listen to and recast what the child is trying to say. Using this you can provide a complete, correct pattern, encourage them to notice similarities and differences, understand meanings.

There are games to extend vocabulary but daily activities used effectively can be the basis for expanding the various words used to describe similar objects, feelings, actions etc. Using a "listening loop" approach, the word is used, the meaning explained and encouragement to use it in a variety of sentences given. Its sounds may be linked to words with similar and different phoneme patterns including rhyming words; the meaning may be linked to personal feelings and experiences as well as both identified and contrasted with the meanings of other similar words.

Whilst many deaf children will absorb new vocabulary and syntactic structures readily, others will need a more proactive approach.

Try it

Repeat it

Remember it