



[This page prints out on 2 sheets]

## **Learning to Read Using Oral Communication**

In oral programs, your child speaks and listens to learn to read. No sign language is used.

### **There are different types of oral communication**

#### Auditory-Oral

Auditory-oral teaches your child to learn how to speak and read using whatever hearing that he has. Your child is also taught how to lipread and speechread.

- Don't cover or hide your mouth when you read to your child.
- Sit face-to-face so he can see your mouth when you read to him.
- If you want to help your child with reading out loud, ask your child to sound out the words as you read together.
- After you read a book with your child, ask him questions about the book. Have him say the answers.

#### Auditory-Verbal

Auditory-verbal teaches your child to speak and read by listening. Your child listens by using hearing aids or cochlear implants.

- When you read to your child, speak clearly.
- In this approach, you might cover your mouth when you read to your child. This will help him listen.
- Have your child read out loud. This will help his speech.
- Read the words to songs. As you read the song, sing out loud.
- Show your child new words that will be in a story. Have him read and repeat these words out loud. Then read the story together.

### **Ways to teach reading using oral communication**

Programs that teach oral communication do different things when they teach children to read:

#### Captioning

- Text appears at the bottom of the TV. This text shows what is being said on the TV program.
- Captioning helps your child listen to the words on TV.
- Captioning is good read-along practice for your child.

## Sound and Frequency Levels

- Children learn better using oral communication if they have help hearing.
- Hearing aids, FM systems and Cochlear Implants are ways to help your child hear.

## Visual Clues

- **Highlighting:** You can change the color of different words in a sentence or paragraph. This helps show important information.
- **Cued Speech(CS):** CS helps children understand the difference between words that sound the same when they are reading:
  - In American English, CS uses eight different handshapes in four different places near the mouth.
  - CS is not a language. It is a tool to learn language.
  - Using CS while speaking makes it easier to lipread.
  - It can help your child say words that he sees on paper.
  - When you read with your child, sign at the same time you say the words.

## Total Communication

Your child may learn to read using speech and sign. The name for this is Total Communication. Total Communication uses both sign language and oral communication.

- Many reading programs use Total Communication.
- You can decide how your child learns to read best.
- Your child can decide how he wants to communicate.

## **Learn more about Oral and Total Communication**

- Find out [more about Oral Communicaiton](http://www.oraldeafed.org/) (<http://www.oraldeafed.org/>). Find a list of schools that have Oral Communication programs.
- Read more about [the communication options your child has](http://www.entnet.org/healthinfo/hearing/hearing_loss_communication.cfm) ([http://www.entnet.org/healthinfo/hearing/hearing\\_loss\\_communication.cfm](http://www.entnet.org/healthinfo/hearing/hearing_loss_communication.cfm)).
- Learn more about [Cued Speech](http://www.deafinx.com/cue.html) (<http://www.deafinx.com/cue.html>).
- Read an [article about cued speech](http://abclocal.go.com/wls/news/karenmeyer/060403_disable_cuedspeech.html) ([http://abclocal.go.com/wls/news/karenmeyer/060403\\_disable\\_cuedspeech.html](http://abclocal.go.com/wls/news/karenmeyer/060403_disable_cuedspeech.html)).
- Learn [how oral education works](http://www.entcolumbia.org/ode.htm) (<http://www.entcolumbia.org/ode.htm>).
- Learn more about [Total Communication](http://deafinx.com/options_tc.html) ([http://deafinx.com/options\\_tc.html](http://deafinx.com/options_tc.html)).

*Last updated: October 07, 2004*

*You can find this page online at:*

<http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/learning/reading/oral.jsp>