

Characteristics of the Auditory Learner

1. Memorizes easily.
2. Good Storyteller. Stories can get taller and taller.
3. The chatterer.
4. Tells jokes.
5. Tries to be funny.
6. Learns spelling easily if taught the say-spell-say method.
7. Often hyperactive.
8. Motorically awkward.
9. Poor performance on group tests of intelligence. Seems to be brighter than these test results indicate.

Suggestions for teaching Children with a Strong Auditory Modality

1. Verbalize the organization of tasks and steps in problem solving.
2. Give questions and directions orally and have the child repeat them.
3. Let child answer orally.
4. Teach phonetic decoding system.
5. Let child read orally often.
6. Make frequent use of tape recorders and CD's of many types.
7. Provide a rhythmic structure for motor and reading tasks. Work to a beat, or a timing pattern.
8. Have child spell words orally to memorize them or trigger word recognition.
9. Play rhyming and blending word games.
10. Have child write from dictation.

Characteristics of Children with Auditory Difficulties

1. Difficulty understanding spoken directions, unless they are shortened or simplified.
2. Difficulty or slowness in organizing thoughts for expression.
3. Difficulty retaining directions or information obtained through listening.
4. Difficulty discriminating consonant sounds; hears mat for bat; tab for tap; betting for bedding.
5. Difficulty discrimination and learning short vowel sounds.
6. Does not hear rhyming words.
7. Quiet, not talkative.
8. Speech not as clear as it should be at particular age level.
9. Difficulty "finding" words for speech.
10. Uses phrases or single words rather than sentences.
11. Cannot pick out initial, middle, or final sounds or words.
12. Spells and read sight words more correctly than phonetic words.

Classroom Modifications that Assist the Child with an Auditory Modality Weakness

1. Make the room as quiet as possible.
2. Find the child a quiet place to work.
3. Use as few words as you can.
4. If you repeat, use the same words.
5. Back-up auditory directions with visual cues.
6. Speak directly to the child. Make sure the child makes eye contact with you while you speak.
7. Very soft background music can be used to screen out distractions. Do not use "bouncy" music.
8. Earphones and/or a tape recorder help to screen out distractions caused by other noises.