

ENCOURAGING QUESTIONS

IN DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING CHILDREN

Research-Based Tips!

WHAT'S THE IMPORTANCE?

DHH children are generally asking fewer questions compared to peers with typical hearing. Utilizing these strategies can build this skill in DHH children.

TYPES OF QUESTIONS

There are multiple types of questions a child may produce. Here are some common question types:

- ▶ "Wh-" Questions
"What does that say?"
- ▶ Modal Questions
"Can't I go with you?"
- ▶ Auxiliary Do Questions
"Did he like the movie?"



ELICITING QUESTIONS

These strategies can be used to encourage questions from DHH children in play, conversation, structured activities, etc.

Modeling

Try modeling the types of questions you want to target.

"Hmm, what are we going to do today?"

Prompting

Prompt your children to ask questions about activities or to another person

"Ask me what we're going to do today."

Providing Opportunities

Set up opportunities for questions.

Place toys/activities in front of child and wait expectantly.

Recasting

Recast a child's utterance into the form of a question.

Child: "Play Uno?"

Adult: "Are we going to play Uno?"

LEVEL OF PROMPTING

Your prompts can vary in their level of support. Examples include:

Subtle:

"I wonder what his favorite color is?"

Direct:

"You should ask him what his favorite color is."

Explicit:

"Ask your neighbor, 'What is your favorite color?'"

Games like Headbanz™ and Guess Who™ can help promote asking questions!

