



## Setting Language in Motion: Family Supports and Early Intervention for Babies Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

## Tips for Language Modeling and Language Stimulation

Below is a summary of tips for encouraging language growth in babies who are deaf or hard of hearing.

- Model not only single words but also connected language, phrases, and sentences.
- Use language to share information.
   Describe everyday routines, what the child is doing during play, and where you are going.
- Take advantage of the interests of the child and provide language models for him or her. For example, if the child points to a ball, acknowledge the communicative attempt by pointing to the ball to affirm that you understand and saying something like, "That's a ball. Do you want the ball?"
- Label toys and objects in the child's environment. Combine the label or name with descriptive words, including action words (e.g., elephant, big elephant, the elephant walks).
- Use animated facial expressions to reflect what vocal patterns might otherwise convey.
- Move into the child's line of vision and establish eye contact before initiating any interaction.

## MODULE SIX

Promoting Communication in the Home

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## For Additional Resources

Please refer to the Module 6 video for more tips and information as well as for additional resources. Also, visit our websites at www.bostonchildrenshospital.org/dhhp and http://clerccenter.gallaudet.edu.



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