



Learning to Listen –Mealtime

Collaborative with North Carolina

Early Learning Sensory Support Program

Stages of Listening to Sound

Children with hearing loss using cochlear implants or hearing aids need help learning to listen. Everyday routines are perfect for learning and making sound-object connections. Knowing the stages of listening can help you support your child with learning to listen during mealtime.

Awareness	Identification	Comprehension
Caregiver helps me notice a sound by pointing to it and naming it.	I know what the sound is.	I notice, understand, and respond to the sound.

Sound Awareness Try saying these things during mealtime:	Sound Identification You know this is happening when:	Sound Comprehension You know this is happening when:
"I heard the water running, shhh."	The child looks at the water.	The child might point and say, "water."
"I heard daddy say yummy."	The child looks at daddy.	The child might point and say, "dada" or "mmm."
"I heard the dog bark, woof woof."	The child looks at the dog.	The child might point and say, "woof woof."
"I heard the cookie bag rustle."	The child looks at the cookies.	The child might point and say, "cookie," "open," or "eat."

"I heard the microwave, beep beep."	The child looks at the microwave.	The child might point and say, "done," "eat," or "beep beep."
"I heard the fridge door open."	The child looks at the fridge.	The child might point and say, "open" or "eat."