



HELPFUL TIPS for REMOTE LEARNING for Teachers of Students who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing

For students who are deaf and hard of hearing, access to online video instruction poses significant challenges. Remember, a teacher's voice can be *heard*, but may be difficult to *understand*.

Hearing Access:

- If possible, use a microphone/headset so that your voice is close to the mic, for greater clarity.
- Be mindful of the rate and intensity of your speech. Speak naturally, but clearly.
- Keep background noise to a minimum when teaching.
- Repeat peers' comments, questions for everyone.

Visual Access

- Speak with a full-face view to the camera. (Avoid looking down; avoid hands near your mouth.)
- Be sure your face is well lit; avoid sitting where light (ex. a window) is at your back.
- Provide visuals to supplement auditory information.
- When reading a book aloud to younger children, a split screen mode will allow students to see the teacher's face for speech reading and the book.

Audio-Video Conferencing “Etiquette”

- Have students mute their microphones; and unmute only when speaking to the class.
- Facilitate a one-talker-at-a-time rule.
- Encourage students to use a signal (ex. hand raising) and wait to be called on before they unmute.
- Teach students to be mindful of background noise in their own home environments.

Captioning. *Remember: speech from videos is far less accessible than live voice.*

- Third party captioning services provide the most accurate captions, and may be necessary for some DHH students. *Automatic captions are imperfect, and may contain errors that distort meaning.*
- **Google Hangouts Meet** provides [automatic closed captions in real-time](#).
- **Zoom** does NOT offer free, real-time captions. However, your student can access automatic captions through a separate platform such as [Web Captioner](#) at their end during video instruction
- **Offer pre-made videos with captions:**
 - [DCMP: Educational videos with captions](#)
 - **YouTube:** Advanced Search Tool in YouTube will help in finding videos with captions (Filter > Features > Subtitles/CC). Be sure to preview videos to ensure caption accuracy
- **Teacher-Made Audios with Captions:**
 - [Create your own captions](#)
 - [Add captions on your YouTube video](#)
 - [How to caption Power-Point Slides](#)

Audio-Transcripts. Any media clips/pod-casts that do not have closed captioning, a text transcript is needed for your student to fully access the materials.

I am here to support you! Please contact me with any questions or concerns as we all navigate this challenging time.

Gayle Mokotoff Flood, M.S., CCC-A, Educational Audiologist: Gayle_flood@tlcdeaf.org