

Concerned about your child's hearing?

Text HEAR to 274 448

The news of a hearing loss can be overwhelming for parents of infants and toddlers. That's why Lantern, the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, and the HATCH Lab at Idaho State University have teamed up to offer the HEAR program.

This **free texting program** puts trusted information into the hands of families with children who have—or may have—hearing loss.

About the HEAR Program

- Designed for families of children ages **birth to 3 years** with suspected or confirmed hearing loss.
- Can **empower you** with information, **connect you** to professionals and other families for support, and **help you** to feel confident about the future.
- Provides **weekly messages** for 6 months (available in English, Spanish or Arabic).

About Childhood Hearing Loss

In the United States, **1 in every 500** babies is born with a detectable level of hearing loss in one or both ears. More than 90% of deaf or hard of hearing children are born to parents who hear, which can make the news of a hearing loss very unexpected.

Left unaddressed in infants and toddlers, hearing loss (even a mild hearing loss) may lead to **delays in speech, language, and cognitive development.**

Some children aren't born with hearing loss but **develop it months or years later** from infections or illnesses, exposure to loud noise, or other causes.



It's important for families to have trusted information about their child's communication options and ways to best support their child's development. **The HEAR program can help!**

