Give your child your full attention and listen carefully each day.



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AUDITORY PROCESSING DISORDER (APD)

Tips for Parents

## How You Can Help: Tips for Parents

As the parent of a child with an Auditory Processing Disorder (APD) you will face many challenges. Understanding your child's unique learning and listening needs will help with management of the APD. Here are some suggestions for how you can help your child.

- Learn as much as possible about APD and the nature of your child's deficits.
- Simplify your language if he/she does not seem to understand.
- Give your child your full attention and listen carefully each day.
- Be honest and take a positive approach.
- Have a specific time each day to work alone with your child.
- Gain your child's visual attention as well as auditory attention before proceeding with a conversation.
- For homework or therapy, start with short work periods and gradually increase time.
- It is important to remain as objective and patient as possible.
- Give simple and short directions.
  When necessary, divide multi-step instructions into brief, logical steps.
- If your child seems to hear some things but not others, do not assume that he/ she is purposely ignoring you.

- Encourage your child to ask for information to be repeated if he/she does not understand.
- Help your child become independent in carrying out daily routines.
- Insist that your child complete activities when he/she is capable of doing them.
- Offer praise for even the smallest successes and do not emphasize the failures.
- Slow down your rate of speech and pause between utterances if your child is experiencing trouble understanding.
- If you have to repeat something for your child, try to rephrase it in a different way.
- Avoid having discussions when you and your child are in separate rooms.
- Your child may need time to rest and recuperate after school.
- Help create a quiet study area away from noise and distractions such as windows or doorways.
- Read aloud to your child and discuss what you have read.

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