# Infant and Toddler Hearing Loss: UBD Unit Design Outline

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## **Identify Desired Results**

**Established Goals:** Early interventionists throughout the state of Alaska will be more informed about basic hearing and communication interventions for various children with hearing loss and their families (or caregivers).

#### **Essential Questions:**

How does a child perceive his/her environment?

How does a hearing loss impact a child's perception and understanding of his or her environment? What about his/her language?

How can a family with a deaf or hard-of-hearing child be helped to better take care of and teach their child?

What are the higher-priority hearing and communicative interventions, and how do I communicate that to others?

# **Desired Understandings:**

A hearing loss impacts not only his/her speech and language, but the way he/she perceives the world.

With early and appropriate early intervention, children with hearing loss can have good language and developmental skills.

Medical information and assistive devices help to guide and facilitate appropriate and effective interventions.

The first three years of life are critically important in listening, language, and speech development.

#### Key knowledge:

**Hearing terminology**: types and degrees of loss, anatomy, devices, and communication vocabulary.

**How hearing works** together as a system and **effects of losses** in parts of the system

Assistive devices (hearing aids, fm systems, cochlear implants), options, appropriate use and candidates, and how to utilize appropriately

**Auditory skill levels** and how they manifest themselves visually (how to see what the child hears)

Functional hearing: screenings, development, assessing

Objective hearing screening and assessment/ diagnostic tools: otoacoustic emissions, brainstem auditory evoked response, automated auditory brainstem response, tympanometry

**Communication intervention strategies** and the various modes of communication

### Key skills:

**Read** audiogram and medical reports and **interpret** it (where loss is occurring, potential impacts on speech and language)

**Maintain**, **troubleshoot**, and **utilize** assistive devices (hearing aids, etc.)

**Perform** functional hearing screenings and **interpret** tympanometry and OAE results. **Understand** and **follow up with** newborn hearing screening results.

**Use** and **know when to use** a variety of communication strategies (sign, voice, pre-symbolic, combination)

**Teach** others (namely parents and caregivers) basic steps to carry out weekly strategies