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Growing Up With Hearing Loss

You may be worried about how your child will grow. Read this page to see how your child may grow.

You may be worried that you don't know how to raise a deaf child. You may feel like the future will be so difficult.

These fears are normal. Feeling overwhelmed will change. Soon you'll know so much about deafness. And many parents go on to raise happy, successful adults.

Find what your child is good at, and help her grow.

Every child is different. Each child has special gifts. As a parent, you'll find these gifts before anyone else.

For some children, their gift may be art. For others, it may be science. Some children are whizzes at cooking. Other children love sports. Whatever your child's gift is, help them grow!

Deafness changes how you raise your child.

Deafness confuses the picture for a few years. You'll spend a lot of time learning about hearing aids, schools and other therapies. Sometimes it's hard to take care of everything that needs to be done.

Start teaching your child how to get along with others early on.

Here's what you can do:

- Teach your child how to act around other people.
- Teach your child to treat other people well.

Because each child is so different, you'll have to match the way you teach with your child's special needs. Read these sections about how your child may grow at different ages:

[Your Baby](#)

Read this section to find out how your baby may grow and learn. See how you can teach him about other people and the world.

[Your Toddler](#)

Read this section to learn how your toddler may grow into her own person.

[Your School-Age Child](#)

This section will give you ideas about how to help your child feel good about herself, and how to help her start becoming independent.

[Your Teenager](#)

Read section to learn ways to guide your teen to becoming an adult.

[Summer Camps](#)

Summer is a great time for your child to meet other children with hearing loss! Find out what camps are in your area.

[Self-Esteem](#)

Read this section to learn more about self-esteem. Find out what you and your child can do to build her self-esteem. Read what research has to say about deafness and self-esteem.

Last updated: July 14, 2004

You can find this page online at:

<http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/growingup/index.jsp>