



July, 2011

*Hope! Dream! Achieve*

www.myparentlinks.com

Summer time



## Summer Safety Tips for Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

Excerpt from Raising Deaf Kids found at [www.raisingdeafkids.org](http://www.raisingdeafkids.org)

**Parent Links  
Hope!  
Dream!  
Achieve!**

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Is a program of the California Department of Education funded by a federal Maternal and Child Health Bureau grant. The Parent Links name and materials are used with permission of the Coalition of Agencies Serving the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Inc.

### Water safety

- Hearing aids and Cochlear implants are not water resistant. Help your child to understand this and how to care for these devices.
- Communicate with the lifeguard on duty that a deaf child is present.
- Sun block is very important to protect your child against harmful rays. Water resistant sun block is the best for long term water fun
- A common mistake that we make is forgetting certain spots when putting on the sunscreen. So every part of the skin that is exposed should have sunscreen. Ears, feet, behind the legs are places that we tend to forget.

### Be street smart

Kids think that if they can see a car, the driver can see them. They also have trouble understanding how fast a car is going. Your child may not hear the sounds of cars coming towards her. Teach your child to be street smart:

### Plan ahead

Have a communication plan ready in case there's an emergency:

- Make sure your child knows who to call and how in case of an emergency.
- Talk about how to contact an interpreter if your child needs one.
- Make sure your child carries a card with emergency numbers with him at all times.
- Make sure your child's school, coaches, and child care providers know how to reach you.
- Prepare an emergency kit with water, flashlights, hearing aid batteries, and other things your child may need.
- Make sure your home is safe inside and outside.
- Practice the plan with your family.



## *Distance Education Courses for Parents Offered by John Tracy Clinic*



Lessons for parents of infants and preschoolers with hearing loss birth to five years old provide materials on:

- Exploring listening
- Building language
- Developing speech
- Enjoying learning

Lessons at **no cost** to parents are available online or through traditional post. Receive family friendly information with fun activities, and then submit report forms with your comments. Individualized encouragement and personalized correspondence from experienced parent educators is sent via web or mail. Parents set their own pace.

For more information please contact: John Tracy Clinic at Tel: (213)748-5481 or look online at [jtc.org](http://jtc.org) [View website](#)

### *ASL University- free online course in American Sign Language*



ASLU is an online American Sign Language curriculum resource center. ASLU has been offering online sign language instruction since 1997. The program began as an effort to support parents of deaf children living in rural or "outlying" areas without access to sign language classes. This online class offers 30 lessons.

ASLU was set up by William G. Vicars Ed.D. (a.k.a. "Dr. Bill") who is currently the director, lead instructor, and webmaster. He holds an accredited doctorate in Deaf Studies / Deaf Education from Lamar University and he currently is a full-time Associate Professor of American Sign Language and Deaf Studies at California State University - Sacramento.

Below are approximately 100 basic ASL signs that are frequently used between parents and their young children. Found on ASL University Website.

- **Family** - mom, dad, boy-girl, marriage, brother-sister, grandpa-grandma, aunt-uncle, baby, single, divorced-separate
- **Places** - home, work, school, store, church, come-go, car/drive, in-out, with
- **Time** - day, night, week, month, year, will-(future), before-(in the past), today-(now), finish-("all done!")
- **Temperature** - hot, cold
- **Food** - pizza, milk, hamburger, hot dog, egg, apple, cheese, drink, spoon, fork, cup, cereal, water, candy, cookie, hungry
- **Clothes** - shirt, pants, socks, shoes, coat, underwear
- **Health** - wash, hurt, bathroom, brush teeth, sleep, nice/clean
- **Feelings** - happy, angry, sad, sorry, cry, like, good-bad, love
- **Requests** - please, excuse, thank you, help, who, what, when, where, why, how, stop
- **Amounts** - big, tall, full, more
- **Colors** - blue, green, yellow, red, brown, orange, gold & silver
- **Money** - dollars, cents, cost
- **Animals** - cat, dog, bird, horse, cow, sheep, pig, bug

For more information please go to [www.lifeprint.com](http://www.lifeprint.com)



## ***Parent Mentors***

Parent mentors are parents of children who are deaf or hard of hearing. From hearing aids, cochlear implants, sign language and speech, we have been there. Have questions? Give us a call.

### **Exceptional Parents Unlimited**

Darla Schwehr  
Vicky Olea  
4440 N. First Street  
Fresno, CA 93726  
559-229-2000 x 208

#### **Counties**

Alameda, Contra Costa  
Fresno, Kings  
Madera, Mariposa  
Merced, Monterey  
San Benito, San Francisco  
San Joaquin, San Mateo  
Santa Clara, Santa Cruz  
Stanislaus, Tulare

### **Family Focus Resource & Empowerment Center**

Barbara Matusky  
April Chauhan  
Irma Sanchez  
18111 Nordhoff Street  
Northridge, CA 91330  
818-677-6854 Office

#### **Counties**

Imperial, Inyo  
Kern, Los Angeles  
Mono, Orange  
Riverside, San Bernardino  
San Diego, San Luis Obispo  
Santa Barbara, Ventura

### **Rowell Family Empowerment Center**

Kat Lowrance  
Barb Ciukowski  
962 Maraglia Street  
Redding, CA 96002  
530-226-5129

#### **Counties:**

Alpine, Amador, Butte,  
Calaveras  
Colusa, Del Norte,  
Humboldt, Lake  
Lassen, Marin  
Mendocino, Modoc  
Napa, Nevada, Placer  
Plumas, Sacramento,  
Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou  
Solano, Sonoma, Sutter,  
Tehama, Trinity  
Tuolumne, Yolo, Yuba