AUDITORY CLOSURE
A Listening and Spoken Language Strategy

**WHAT is it?**

“Auditory closure” is when you pause in a song, story, or sentence to let your child fill in the words to end a familiar phrase.

**WHY do we use it?**

Sometimes we only hear part of what is said to us. This happens often for children with hearing loss, especially when there is noise. But we can use clues from what we did understand to figure out what was said. Using auditory closure can help children with hearing loss learn how to listen for the clues that will help them understand and be able to fill in the blanks.

**WHEN do we use it?**

Auditory closure is a great strategy to use with young children and toddlers. You can use it as soon as your child is starting to try to sing or read with you. You want them to be able make an attempt at saying the words to fill in the blanks. It can be a fun strategy to use during story time, while singing songs in the car, or at bedtime.

**HOW do we do it?**

Start
The song or sentence

Pause
Look toward your child

Wait
For them to finish the line

**Who can use it?**

Anyone!

**WHAT does it look like at home?**

Parent singing: “Itsy Bitsy spider went up the water...”* pause and look toward child*
Child: “spout!”
Parent: “down came the rain and washed the spider...”* pause and look toward child*
Child: “out!”

**References:**


Special thanks to graduate students in the Listening and Spoken Language Deaf Education graduate training program at Utah State University. These pages can be reproduced for educational purposes.

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