



PATIENT INFORMATION ON

Strategies for Improving the Listening and Learning Environment

- Get the child's attention before speaking and, when possible, get within 3 ft of the child.
- Turn off competing sounds, such as music and television in the background.
- Face the child and speak clearly, using visual cues such as hands or pictures in addition to speech.
- Use short, simple sentences and comment on what the child is doing.
- When speaking to the child, slow down, raise the sound level, and enunciate clearly.
- Read to or with the child, explaining pictures and asking questions.
- Call attention to the sounds and spelling of words when reading.
- Patiently repeat words, phrases, and questions when misunderstood.
- In the classroom, ensure that the child sits near the teacher in the front of the room.
- If further assistance in the classroom is necessary, use a remote microphone personal or sound field amplification system.

SOURCE: Rosenfeld RM, Shin JJ, Schwartz SR, et al. Clinical practice guideline (update): otitis media with effusion. *Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg.* 2016;154 (1 Suppl):215-225.



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