

HOW TO DETERMINE APPROPRIATE GOALS AND REINFORCERS: QUESTIONS AUDIOLOGISTS SHOULD ASK PARENTS

Brief Overview:

It can be hard to figure out where to start with parents when trying to implement an effective behavior modification plan to improve hearing aid compliance. Below are questions to ask parents to best establish an achievable goal for hearing aid usage and appropriate reinforcers. Remember: the most appropriate reinforcer and the item that is most reinforcing for the child are not always the same thing!

Questions to Ask Parents

To determine the initial goal for hearing aid wear-time:

- On a good day:
 - How often does your child take off their hearing aid?
 - If you put the hearing aid back on, do they become upset?
 - How long do they keep the hearing aid on for before taking it off again?
- On a bad day:
 - How often does your child take off their hearing aid?
 - If you put the hearing aid back on, do they become upset?
 - How long do they keep the hearing aid on for before taking it off again?

To determine an appropriate reinforcer:

- What is your child's favorite snack?
 - What happens if they don't get to have it?
- What is your child's favorite movie/tv show?
 - What happens if they don't get to watch it?
- What is your child's favorite activity?
 - What happens if they don't get to do their favorite activity?
- Do you think you would be able to not give your child _____ for a day?
 - Do you feel you would be able to ride out your child's response to not getting _____?
 - Do you feel you would be able to distract your child from not getting _____?
- Is _____ something you do not want to consistently give your child access to?
- Do you think you would be able to give your child _____ whenever they meet their goal?