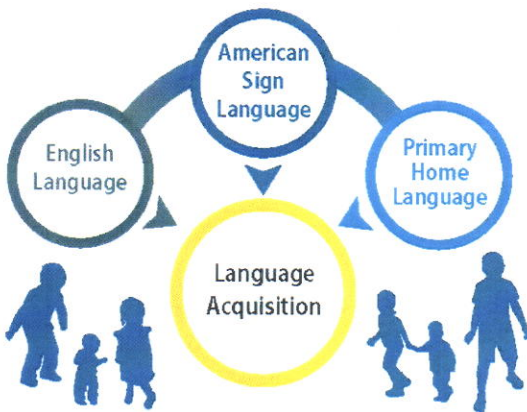


# The Importance of Language Development for Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

## Learning language



## Helps children develop



Cognitive skills that are used to:

- Think
- Reason
- Read
- Remember
- Learn
- Pay attention

## Which helps children

- Understand behavior and express feelings.
- Make friends and develop relationships.
- Feel more confident in their abilities.
- Be ready to learn at school.



## How can you help your child in their journey to developing language?

Give consent every year for your child to take a language acquisition assessment to help us make sure they are reaching their potential in communication and language.



### Why is there an assessment?

The State of Texas wants to make sure children who are deaf or hard of hearing develop strong language skills.

### Who gives the assessment?

Schools give yearly assessments to children who are deaf or hard of hearing from birth to 8 years of age to monitor their language development.

## 4 Reasons to Have Your Child Assessed

The yearly assessment:

1

Helps identify how well your child is learning language and if they need additional help from their team.

2

Is confidential, and your child is not labeled or tracked.

3

Won't affect your child's services from Early Childhood Intervention or special education.

4

Helps the State of Texas decide if improvements need to be made to the programs that serve children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

To learn more, visit the Texas Education Agency website at [www.tea.texas.gov](http://www.tea.texas.gov).