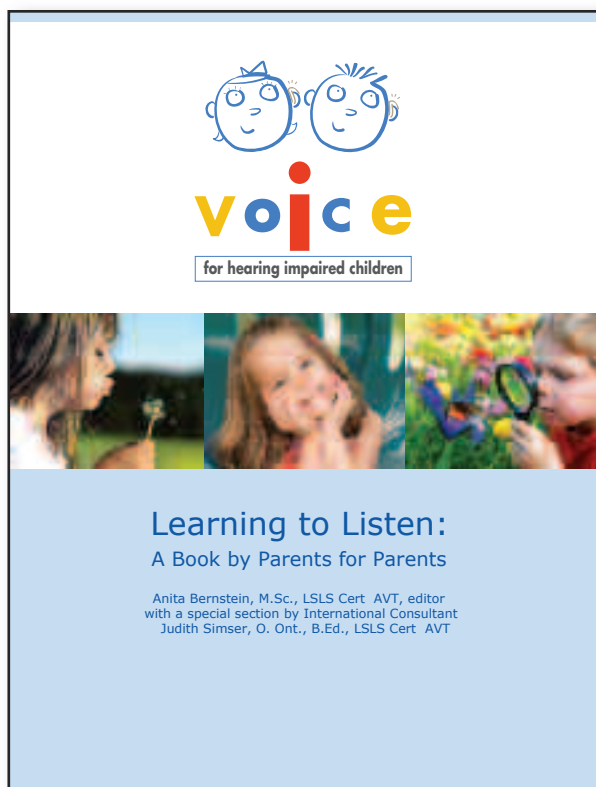


Learning to Listen, A Book By Parents for Parents: New Edition Launched in Celebration Of VOICE's 45th Anniversary Year



Learning to Listen, a book by mothers for mothers of hearing impaired children was first published in the mid-70s and an updated edition printed in 1981 by VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children. The original authors, six dedicated mothers who had children with hearing loss, shared their challenges and experiences in choosing the listening and speaking option for their children. Their dream was novel for that time – they wanted their children to attend the neighbourhood school and have the opportunity to be educated and socialize with their typically hearing peers. The landscape for children with hearing loss has seen tremendous change since the mid-70s; however, parental concerns for their children as well as the need for support and guidance prevail. Although skilled professionals are available to guide families in developing the skills needed to assist their children to listen and speak, parents find their most valued mentors in other parents who share similar experiences.

The focus of this edition is a sharing of successful strategies for “Living the Auditory-Verbal Life” and activities for making every moment a listening and language learning opportunity. It endeavoured to incorporate all the wonderful activities shared by the original authors as well as many others contributed by VOICE families. Judy Simser, who too parented a child with a hearing loss and is a LSLS AV therapist, shares her insights and wisdom learned in that dual role.

It has been an inspiring experience working with such dedicated parents and professionals to make this edition of the Learning to Listen book a reality. As with its previous editions, it will continue to be an invaluable teaching tool for both parents and professionals.

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