



A MINUTE OF HEALTH WITH CDC

Hearing Key to Early Education

Better Hearing and Speech Month — United States, May 2010

Recorded: May 11, 2010; posted: May 20, 2010

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A child's education begins long before he or she enters school. By listening to the sounds of the environment, an infant begins to develop speech patterns and communication and social skills. Undetected hearing problems can delay a child's progress in these areas which can affect academic achievement later in life.

All infants should be screened for hearing loss by at least one month of age, preferably before leaving the hospital. If a problem is found, further testing by an audiologist should be done no later than three months of age. Early detection and intervention are keys to ensuring a child has a chance to develop the skills necessary to learn and interact with others.

Thank you for joining us on *A Minute of Health with CDC*.

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