

Listening to Overcome Disabilities



GRANT RECIPIENTS

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NYS STANDARD

ELA #1
ELA #4

GRADE LEVEL

Grades 1-8

STUDENTS SERVED

9 students

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this grant was to determine the effectiveness of a research-based intervention called “The Listening Program” (TLP). This program was designed to retrain the ear to more effectively process information. By improving sensory and processing skills, social and academic gains should follow.

We attended a 2-day training conference in Vermont studying Dr. Tomatis’ research in audiology and the ear-brain connection. We returned with the training and equipment necessary to implement “The Listening Program.”

We developed teacher and parent forms to assess the students. We scheduled daily listening times lasting 15 minutes and began in November. To complete the recommended listening cycle, students will listen daily for 32 weeks.

After 10 weeks, we reevaluated each student. The tests will be readministered after 10 more weeks, and again after the 32 week cycle is complete.

Resources needed were TLP CD’s and training, headphones, and players.

STUDENT OUTCOMES

At this early point of implementation, some changes that have been observed include increased social engagement, conversational give-and-take, initiating greetings, and decreased auditory and sensory defensiveness. Academic gains include writing a sentence on topic and increased reading comprehension. The students enjoy the music, and look forward to the session. For students who are often stressed by the expectations of school, TLP provides a relaxing experience enabling modulation of anxiety.