A 2017 study funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found that for children who are deaf or hard of hearing (D/HH):

- who enrolled in early intervention by 6 months of age have the best opportunity for optimal vocabulary outcomes.

**The EHDI 1-3-6 guidelines**

The EHDI 1-3-6 guidelines are key benchmarks that help identify children who are D/HH and ensure they start receiving intervention early.

**Successfully implementing the EHDI guidelines requires a team approach to ensure timely transitions from screening to identification to intervention. The team should include the following:**

- Pediatricians
- Newborn screening personnel
- Audiologists
- Deaf mentors
- Early interventionists
- State-based EHDI surveillance programs
- Parents and caregivers
- Teachers of the D/HH

**What can health care providers do?**

- Parent-to-parent support
- Parent-child interaction
- Intensity of intervention services
- Characteristics of early intervention providers and programs
- Incorporating adults who are D/HH in the Early Intervention process
- Child’s time using amplification
- Information shared with families
- Deaf community involvement

**What can we learn from additional research?**

Future studies can look at related variables such as the following:

- Hearing screening by 1 month
- Identification of hearing levels by 3 months
- Enrollment in intervention by 6 months

**Where can I learn more?**

Visit the American Academy of Pediatrics Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program webpage for more information and helpful resources: [https://www.aap.org/ehdi](https://www.aap.org/ehdi)

**What else did the study show?**

**The study included 448 children:**

- Ages 8 to 39 months
- Living across 12 states

**All children who met the 1-3-6 guidelines had better vocabulary outcomes, including children who had additional disabilities or mothers with lower levels of education.**

**There was no significant relationship between vocabulary outcomes and language of the home (English or Spanish).**

**Meeting all EHDI 1-3-6 benchmarks helped all children, regardless of their testing thresholds or other determining factors.**

**A D/HH adult in the home had a positive impact on vocabulary.**

**Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Makes A Difference**

**Improving Vocabulary Outcomes in Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing**

All children who met the 1-3-6 guidelines had better vocabulary outcomes, including children who had additional disabilities or mothers with lower levels of education.

Meeting all EHDI 1-3-6 benchmarks helped all children, regardless of their testing thresholds or other determining factors.

A D/HH adult in the home had a positive impact on vocabulary.

**What can we learn from additional research?**

Future studies can look at related variables such as the following:

- Hearing screening by 1 month
- Identification of hearing levels by 3 months
- Enrollment in intervention by 6 months

**Where can I learn more?**

Visit the American Academy of Pediatrics Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program webpage for more information and helpful resources: [https://www.aap.org/ehdi](https://www.aap.org/ehdi)

**What else did the study show?**

**The study included 448 children:**

- Ages 8 to 39 months
- Living across 12 states

**All children who met the 1-3-6 guidelines had better vocabulary outcomes, including children who had additional disabilities or mothers with lower levels of education.**

**There was no significant relationship between vocabulary outcomes and language of the home (English or Spanish).**

**Meeting all EHDI 1-3-6 benchmarks helped all children, regardless of their testing thresholds or other determining factors.**

**A D/HH adult in the home had a positive impact on vocabulary.**

**Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Makes A Difference**

**Improving Vocabulary Outcomes in Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing**

All children who met the 1-3-6 guidelines had better vocabulary outcomes, including children who had additional disabilities or mothers with lower levels of education.

Meeting all EHDI 1-3-6 benchmarks helped all children, regardless of their testing thresholds or other determining factors.

A D/HH adult in the home had a positive impact on vocabulary.

**What can we learn from additional research?**

Future studies can look at related variables such as the following:

- Hearing screening by 1 month
- Identification of hearing levels by 3 months
- Enrollment in intervention by 6 months

**Where can I learn more?**

Visit the American Academy of Pediatrics Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program webpage for more information and helpful resources: [https://www.aap.org/ehdi](https://www.aap.org/ehdi)

**What else did the study show?**

**The study included 448 children:**

- Ages 8 to 39 months
- Living across 12 states

**All children who met the 1-3-6 guidelines had better vocabulary outcomes, including children who had additional disabilities or mothers with lower levels of education.**

**There was no significant relationship between vocabulary outcomes and language of the home (English or Spanish).**

**Meeting all EHDI 1-3-6 benchmarks helped all children, regardless of their testing thresholds or other determining factors.**

**A D/HH adult in the home had a positive impact on vocabulary.**

**Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Makes A Difference**

**Improving Vocabulary Outcomes in Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing**

All children who met the 1-3-6 guidelines had better vocabulary outcomes, including children who had additional disabilities or mothers with lower levels of education.

Meeting all EHDI 1-3-6 benchmarks helped all children, regardless of their testing thresholds or other determining factors.

A D/HH adult in the home had a positive impact on vocabulary.