Listening and Auditory Awareness Skills - Development Activities

The following activities can help develop listening and auditory awareness skills:-

* **Commence activities with “rules” of good listening or WHOLE BODY LISTENING**
  
  * **Listen with your eyes** – look at the speaker
  * **Listen with your ears** – listen to speaker
  * **Listen with your hands** – keep hands still, don’t fiddle/touch others
  * **Listen with your feet** – keep your feet still
  * **Listen with your bottom** – sit still, don’t move around
  * **Listen with your mouth** – only one person speaks at a time

* **Listening Games** – try to play one general listening game on a regular basis to show listening can be *fun* and *worthwhile*. Examples are:-
  
  * Simon Says
  * What’s the time Mr Wolf?
  * Duck Duck Goose
  * Musical Chairs/Bobs
  * Pass the Parcel

* **Music Time** – child to identify or respond to different types of music. Eg run to fast beat, walk to slow beat etc.

* **Attending to a particular word** – using a prop (toy, picture, photo), make up a story and have the child identify (by clapping) a particular word every time you say it.

* **Recalling Sentences** – Read a sentence and ask the child to repeat exactly what she hears. It would be beneficial to use sentences that are functional and relevant to the child. Gradually increase length and complexity of sentences.

* **Following Commands** – play games where the child must listen to your command in order to locate an item.

Reference: Therapy Focus
* **Sequential Memory** – Ask the children to touch or find items around the room or on themselves. A response is only correct if it is carried out in the correct order.

* **Group Games**
  - Chinese Whispers – begin with only 3-4 word sentences and increase the length when the children get more confident at remembering and relaying sentences correctly.
  - I went to the market and bought...