



Kids Keeping in Touch




through

Florida
Relay

Hearing Loss Awareness

A Program for Grades 3 through 5

Table of Contents

Kids Keeping in Touch – Overview2
Hearing Loss Awareness Pre/Post-Test3
Pre/Post-Test Answer Key4
Unit 1: The Human Body5
Lesson Plan #1A – The Five Senses	
Lesson Plan #1B – Parts of the Ear/Causes of Hearing Loss	
Lesson Plan #1C – Hearing Aids	
Lesson Plan #1D – Cochlear Implants	
Unit 2: Society and Culture29
Lesson Plan #2A – Comparing Cultures	
Lesson Plan #2B – Identifying Differences	
Lesson Plan #2C – Reading for Literary Experience	
Lesson Plan #2D – Myths and Truths About Hearing Loss	
Unit 3: Technology and Communication47
Lesson Plan #3A – History of Sign Language	
Lesson Plan #3B – Sign Language	
Lesson Plan #3C – Learning About Cued Speech	
Lesson Plan #3D – Using an Interpreter	
Lesson Plan #3E – Communication Before Technology	
Lesson Plan #3F – Using FLORIDA RELAY	
	
Unit 4: Students-to-Students Program81
Glossary of New Terms88
Appendix I – General Overview of Florida Relay89
Appendix II – Making and Receiving Florida Relay Calls91
Appendix III – Frequently Asked Questions About Hearing Loss and Florida Relay92
Appendix IV – Standard TTY Abbreviations93
Resource Guide94

Kids Keeping in Touch – Overview

Welcome to *Kids Keeping in Touch*, a hearing loss awareness program for school-aged children. This informational, enriching program is for classroom teachers and support personnel to use as an enhancement to their existing curriculum.

Florida Relay, a free public service provided by the State of Florida, enables people of all ages who use a standard telephone to communicate with people who are deaf, hard of hearing, Deaf/Blind or speech impaired and use a TTY (text telephone). The *Kids Keeping in Touch* program was designed to increase awareness and sensitivity to communication differences between children and to encourage them to use Florida Relay. The program is targeted toward children in intermediate elementary grades three through five, but the lessons are very flexible and may be adapted to other grade levels as well. Many lessons may be used in isolation, and units do not have to be taught sequentially.

How does Florida Relay work? It's easy. A call may be initiated by a person using either a standard telephone or a TTY. In Florida, dial 7-1-1, or 1-800-955-8770 from anywhere, and give the operator the phone number of the person you would like to call. The operator will connect you with the TTY user and then relay the conversation between the two of you. (A TTY looks much like a standard telephone with a keyboard, a text screen and/or a paper printout). The TTY user types his or her side of the conversation into the TTY, and that message is read to you by the operator. The operator then listens and types your words back to the TTY user.

Kids Keeping in Touch is intended to help teachers educate children about Florida Relay and those individuals with hearing loss whom Florida Relay is proud to serve. Lessons are divided into four main units: The Human Body, Society and Culture, Technology and Communication, and the Students-to-Students Program.

We welcome feedback on the usefulness of *Kids Keeping in Touch* in your educational setting. To share comments or for more information, please contact Florida Telecommunications Relay, Inc., Customer Service at 1-800-222-3448 or 1820 East Park Avenue, Suite 101, Tallahassee, FL 32301. Or, you can visit us online at www.ftri.org.

Hearing Loss Awareness Pre-Test/Post-Test

Name: _____

Date: _____

Write true (T) or false (F).

- _____ 1. People who are deaf live in a silent world.
- _____ 2. All people who are deaf lip-read well.
- _____ 3. When speaking to a person with hearing loss, do not shout.
- _____ 4. Avoid chewing gum, eating, or covering your mouth when speaking to a person with hearing loss.
- _____ 5. People who are deaf can make and receive phone calls.
- _____ 6. Sign language is the same all over the world.
- _____ 7. New signs are being added to sign language all the time.
- _____ 8. The culture of people who are deaf is different from those who have an illness-, trauma-, or age-related hearing loss.
- _____ 9. A leading cause of hearing loss in children is a childhood infectious disease.
- _____ 10. People who are deaf are less intelligent than people who can hear.

Pre-Test/Post-Test ANSWER KEY

TEACHER NOTE: Although these statements will be discussed throughout the units, please explain the answers as you check the pre-test with your students.

1. **False** – “Noise” can be visual for people who are deaf. For example, traffic, crowds, or flashing lights are “noisy.” Also, most people who are deaf do hear something, even if it is only a horn honking.
2. **False** – Some people who are deaf are very skilled lip readers, but many are not. This is because many speech sounds have identical mouth movements. For example, “p” and “b” look exactly alike on the lips.
3. **True** – Shouting will not make your message any clearer and may distort it.
4. **True** – When a person who is deaf can read your lips without interference, communication is easier and less stressful.
5. **True** – The use of TTYs (text telephones) allows people who are deaf and hard of hearing to make and receive phone calls.
6. **False** – Each country has its own sign language and alphabet.
7. **True** – With technology and the need for new terms, new signs are always being added.
8. **True** – Although these people share the condition of not hearing with people who are deaf, they do not have access to the knowledge, beliefs, and practices that make up the culture of people who are deaf.
9. **True** – Childhood diseases such as mumps and measles can cause hearing loss.
10. **False** – Hearing ability is unrelated to intelligence. Lack of knowledge about deafness, however, has often limited educational and occupational opportunities for people who are deaf.