



# Private Occupational Therapy

In-Home Pediatric Occupational Therapy

## **Auditory Processing**

The ability to take in auditory information, process it in a timely manner, and make an appropriate response. This system also involves a person's ability to discriminate one sound from another. A child with auditory defensiveness may demonstrate over sensitivity to certain sounds and may involve irritable or fearful responses to noises (ex fire alarms, air conditioning, etc). Children may even make excessive noise in an attempt to block out sound.

### **CLASSROOM ADAPTATIONS/ACCOMMODATIONS**

- Keep instructions specific and simple
- Have children take turns verbally repeating auditory directions before beginning a task
- Use verbal/visual directions to follow or in place of auditory instructions
- Provide demonstrations or visual models when explaining a task
- Approach child from the front to give a visual cue that verbal interactions are coming
- Rugs or carpeted surfaces to decrease noise
- Place felt or tennis balls on feet of chairs to minimize noise
- Reduce volume of intercoms/loudspeakers Prepare/warn a child with auditory defensiveness/sensitivity for fire drills
- Consider placement of desk
- Provide student with noise-reducing head phones Place student close to the teacher
- Play calming or alerting music
- Allow work to be done in a quiet area if possible

### **CALMING/ORGANIZING ACTIVITIES**

- Auditory input that can be calming: familiar or quiet, gentle rhythm, simple melodies, singsong rhythm, no rhythm
- Soft rhythmic music
- Try changing the volume of your voice-loud may be too much (try a whispering song)

### **ALERTING ACTIVITIES**

- Provide personal head phones and play music
- Toys/games that provide intermittent noises
- Buzzers/Time Timers