



September
2012

MISSOURI SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

Deaf
Education
News

Deaf Awareness Week September 23-29, 2012

Each year, the last full week of September is Deaf Awareness Week. This year it is September 23-29, 2012. This is a great opportunity to highlight the achievements and contributions people who are deaf and hard of hearing have made. Here are some examples:

Vinton Cerf, "the father of the internet," Kansas City artist Chuck Baird, world famous percussionist Dame Evelyn Glennie, and US 2012 Olympic athletes, Tamika Catchings and David Smith. It is also a good time to learn about deaf culture, American Sign Language and the diversity of the deaf community.

[Teacher Planet](#) has some ready made Deaf Awareness lesson plans. For more ideas, *Google*: "Deaf History," "Famous Deaf People," Sign Language Games," and "Deaf Culture games."

What is *iTransition*?



On average, students who are deaf or hard of hearing leave high school less likely than their hearing peers to be accepted into and to succeed in a post-secondary education or training program or to be hired for and hold on to a job. What can you do to

improve your student's chances for success?

iTransition is a free, online transition curriculum to help students ages 14 through adult who are deaf or hard of hearing prepare for life after high school. *iTransition* can be used by students, parents, and professionals.

After completing this training, students will:

Discover more about their interests and skills, and how they might relate to a career choice

Explore options for postsecondary education

Develop critical thinking skills in the areas of academic, career, and personal choices



Organize information in their own online transition portfolios

Improve their self-advocacy skills by communicating with others about their interests, goals, and education

For more information go to: [PEPNet-iTransition](#)





News



Cochlear Implants: Updated



Navigating a Forest of Information...One Tree at a Time!

Since 2003, when this popular resource was originally developed, the forest of information on cochlear implants has continued to grow. The "trees" within this document have been updated to reflect this growth. Similar to the previous document, it is designed for both families and professionals and includes information, resources, and references on topics surrounding cochlear implants, including information about the technology and manufacturers, the process to obtain a cochlear implant, insurance, surgery, programming the speech processor, and training the ear to listen. It also addresses considerations specific to making the decision of obtaining a cochlear implant as well as language and educational planning for children using cochlear implants. This information from the Clerc Center at Gallaudet University is free and available at [CIEC: Navigating a Forest of Information](#).

Reminder

The Missouri School for the Deaf (MSD) Outreach Services will once again have a booth at the 35th Annual Special Education Administrators' Conference, Sept. 23-25, 2012, at Tan Tar A Resort, Lake Ozark. Staff will be available to answer any questions you may have about the Missouri School for the Deaf, audiology, or the education of children who are deaf or hard of hearing. We look forward to seeing you there.

Also, please attend our presentation to learn more about the variety of services offered through our Outreach Program.

Free Download

Odyssey 2012: Research to Practice

The 2012 issue of *Odyssey* focuses on how education professionals are taking research and evidence-based practices and applying them in the classroom, at school, and to other school-related programs to raise student achievement and prepare students to excel in school and life.

Odyssey is available at no charge both in print and online.

Download the latest issue at: www.gallaudet.edu/Documents/Clerc/Odyssey2012.pdf



ASL CAMP

On June 22-24, 2012, families from across Missouri converged on Missouri School for the Deaf's campus for the first annual **Family ASL Camp**. This camp was for families with children in grades K-12 who are deaf or hard of hearing (DHH). The families included the DHH children, their parents and siblings, as well as extended family. Some children used cochlear implants and/or hearing aids; some used ASL as a primary language and others used an oral communication approach.



The camp's goal was to increase a family's ability to communicate with each other using ASL. *Family ASL Camp* included ASL classes with an ample opportunity to chat with ASL fluent deaf camp staff. Adults and children also had fun playing traditional deaf games, enjoying ASL stories, and participating in ASL skits. Campers and staff made new friends and had a good time. **This year, Family ASL Camp will be May 31-June 2, 2013.**

TEEN INSTITUTE



June 10-15, 2012, forty-three teenage Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Kids of Deaf Adults (KODA) campers attended the annual Teen Institute (TI) Camp at the Missouri School for the Deaf. The campers included those with hearing aids, cochlear implants as well as those who signed and those who used oral communication. The campers formed three teams that competed with each other.

Each morning campers participated in workshops that addressed important issues (ex: cyber-bullying, internet safety, mental health) that DHH teens face. Each afternoon and evening included fun team building activities that promoted self-esteem, problem-solving, self advocacy, and leadership skills. Each night before bed, campers sat around a campfire and reviewed the highlights of the day.

Teens arrived at the camp feeling alone and anxious. They left feeling empowered and with new friends. **Next year TI will be on June 9-15th, 2013.**

19th Annual Missouri Interpreters Conference 2012



The Power of One: United and Moving in Excellence

October 12-14, 2012

Tan Tar A Resort, Osage Beach, Missouri

Sponsored by the Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (MCDHH)

The Conference offers opportunities for sign-language interpreters to improve their craft, network, and socialize with both deaf and hearing individuals. Information is available at <http://www.mcdhh.mo.gov/interpretersconference.shtml>

The Deaf and Hard of Hearing Empowerment Symposium will be on October 13 and will focus on Deaf Mental Health in Missouri. There is no charge to attend the Symposium.

Further information at: www.mcdhh.mo.gov/empowermentsymposium.shtml.

NEW SERVICE

EARLY LITERACY PROJECT

ARE YOUR DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING STUDENTS DELAYED IN READING?

DO YOU HAVE EDUCATIONAL STAFF THAT HAVE PROFICIENT SIGNING SKILLS?

MSD HAS NATIONALLY CERTIFIED SHARED READING TRAINERS.

WE MAY BE ABLE TO TRAIN YOUR ASL PROFICIENT STAFF IN HOW TO READ STORIES TO STUDENTS IN ASL.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, EMAIL LARRY HOARD AT RCD@MSD.DESE.MO.GOV



2012-13 Schedule for Free Community ASL Class on MSD Campus

Fall: September 8th to October 13th Winter: October 20th to November 25th

Spring: March 2nd to April 6th Summer: April 13th to May 18th

Classes are from 9:00am-11:00am in Stark Elementary School on MSD Campus

For more information contact: Sharon.egbert@msd.dese.mo.gov



PepNet 2.0 Website



Access the Fundamentals

Resources for Transition Planning with students that are Deaf & Hard of Hearing.



Communities of Practice

The brand new PN2 website offers improved online training and e-learning products and better access to evolving interactive communities of practice. You can also join the PN2 discussion forum.



iTransition

The site's easy-to-use enhanced search feature locates resources by category, intended audience or keyword, so while bookmarks created prior to the site's reorganization will no longer work, it is easier than ever to find and bookmark the PN2 resources you need.



Just in Time



Quick Classes

For more information visit their website at <http://pepnet.org>

First Choice, Not Last Resort



Missouri School for the Deaf, 505 East 5th Street, Fulton, MO 65251
Phone: 573-592-4000 V/TDD; Fax: 573-592-2570; www.msd.k12.mo.us

MSD Outreach Services: Audiology

Dr. Alison Burco administers free hearing evaluations to Missouri children, from birth through age 21. She is available Monday-Friday for testing and consultations concerning hearing aids, FM systems, cochlear implants and other issues related to deafness. Dr. Burco can be contacted at the MSD Resource Center on Deafness.

Phone: # 573-592-2543, voice or TDD or Email: rcd@msd.dese.mo.gov



FAMILIES FIRST

EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM



Parent Advisors with this program provide home visits for deaf or hard of hearing children from birth through 8 years of age. Parent Advisors offer the family information, support, and encouragement, as well as provide ideas for strategies parents may use to help a child develop in the areas of language acquisition, communication, and social and emotional skills. All services are provided free. Families must live in Missouri to qualify.

For more information: Phone: (573) 592-2543; E-Mail: ff@msd.dese.mo.gov

MSD Resource Center on Deafness-Outreach Services

Free Services

- Information about hearing loss and appropriate educational services for deaf or hard-of-hearing students
- Audiological exams and APD testing for Missouri children birth through 21
- School visits and consultation by a deaf educator
- Inservice presentations for schools
- Language assessment for deaf and hard-of-hearing students unable to be appropriately tested in their home districts

Rental Program

- Annual leases of personal and group amplification systems to schools

Phone: 573-592-2543; Email: rcd@msd.dese.mo.gov



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