Hearing Impaired

By: Danielle De Roos
Defining Hearing Impaired: 
the 3 most frequently used terms

- Hearing Impaired-the generic term
- Deafness-severe hearing loss
- Hard of hearing-moderate hearing loss
Classification of Hearing Impairment

**Conductive hearing loss**
(mild loss in both ears)

**Unilateral hearing loss**
(loss in only one ear)

**Mild bilateral sensorineural hearing loss**
(caused by sound not being transferred to the brain)

**Moderate-to-severe bilateral sensorineural hearing loss**
(more severe loss in both ears)
Causes of Hearing Impairments

• genetic causes
• developmental abnormalities
• toxic reaction to drugs
• infections
• prematurity
• Birth trauma
• allergies
Assessment/Decibels

- Formal Assessment
  - Pure tone audiometry

- Informal Assessment
  - Observation

- Measures hearing loss
- 25-90dB - hard of hearing
- Above 90dB - deaf
Realities of the General Classroom

• Significant challenge
• Language problems
• Special education staff and specialists
Meet Maydee!
Maydee’s schooling

- General Ed: Grade School-9th
- Delavan School for the Deaf
- Pros:
  - Loneliness
  - Behavior
  - Positive deaf role models
- Cons:
  - Far away from home
ASL (American Sign Language)

- Students who have profound hearing loss must rely on other forms of communication
- Interpreters
- Teachers are not required to learn ASL - however common signs, the alphabet, and numbers would be helpful
ALDS (Assistive Learning Devices)

• Includes hearing aides and other devices that amplify voices and sound, communicate messages visibly or alert users to sound.

• Hearing Aides—Most common ALD.
• Other ALDS include:
  – Captioning systems
  – Microcomputers (ENFI)
  – FM systems
  – Programmable hearing aides
  – Audiocassette programs
  – Sound field amplification systems
Hearing Impairment in Mainstream: Rosie’s World
Works Cited

- http://www.listen-up.org/sign.htm
- http://www.teachers.tv