



Introducing A New Person



Children who are DeafBlind learn best when they can use many senses, especially touch. Based on a child's unique hearing and vision loss, they may not always see or hear what is happening around them and may miss important clues that other children notice.

Prepare your child by giving cues for what you are going to do **before** you do it.

Using tactile or sensory cues and a slow pace helps children feel safe and calm. When caregivers know what to watch for and are responsive to children's cues they build a trusting relationship. When children know what to expect, they can relax, communicate, and participate more fully in their daily routines.



WHAT TO SAY AND/OR SIGN

WHAT TO TRY

WHAT TO WATCH FOR

"This is 'name'."

Give a cue to let your child know someone is approaching. (friend, teacher)

Child may look towards the person.

Help the person introduce themselves using their name. "Hi, I'm 'name'."

Let your child explore objects associated with the person using hand under hand.

Child will feel the new person's object/personal identifier.

"It's learning time. Your teacher is here."

Use a consistent cue/sign for "learning time".

Child might turn away or smile.

"It's play time. A new friend is here."

Use a consistent cue/sign for "play time".

Child might seem excited or timid.

Help the person say goodbye. "I'm leaving, goodbye."

Use a consistent cue/sign for "goodbye".

Child might wave, close the door.

Always help your child understand why they are meeting this new person.

End introductions the **same** way each time so your child learns when they are done.

