SURVEY AND ANALISIS OF COMMERCIALLY AVAILABLE SOURCESOF ACOUSTIC STIMULI IDENTIFICATION AND REHABILITATION OF HEARING HANDICAPPED CHILDREN(0-3 YEARS)

Reg.No.M9017

AN INDEPNDENT PROJECT WORK SUBMITTED AS PART FULFILMENT

FOR THE FIRST YEAR M.Sc. (SPEECH AND HEARING) TO THE MYSORE

UNIVERSITY

ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF SPEECH AND HEARING MYSORE - 6

WHO HAVE BEEN AN EVERGREEN SOURCE OF MY INSPIRATION -AND STRENGTHS

... MY PARENTS

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the Independent Project entitled: "Survey and Analysis of Commercially available sources of acoustic stimuli in identification and rehabilitation of hearing impaired children (0-3 years)" is a bonafide work, done in part fulfilment for the first year M.Sc., (Speech and Hearing) of the student with Reg.No.M 9017.

Director

All India Institute of Speech & Hearing Mysore-6.

Mysore 1991

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the Independent Project entitled: "Survey and analysis of commercially available sources of acoustic stimuli in identification and rehabilitation of hearing impaired children (0-3 years)" has been prepared uinder my supervision and guidance.

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Dr.(Miss) S.Nikam, GUIDE

Mysore 1991

DECLARATION

This Independent Project entitled: "Survey and analysis of commercially available sources of acoustic stimuli in identification and rehabilitation of hearing impaired children (0-3 years)" is the result of my own study under the guidance of Dr. (Miss) S.Nikam, Prof, and Head of the Department of Audiology, All India Institute of Speech and Hearing, Mysore, and has not been submitted earlier at any other University for any other Diploma or Degree,

Mysore.

Reg.No.M9017

1991

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

My sincere thanks go to my guide Dr. S. Nikam, Prof. and HOD, Department of Audiology, AIISH, Mysore without whose guidance this project would not have been complete.

My thanks are due to the Dr. S. Nikam,Director, AIISH, for Permitting me to carry out this project.

I am greatly indebted to my subjects and their parents for their kind cooperation during the study.

I'd also like to thank all those toy manufacturing companies who promptly sent us their catalogues.

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- I'd also like to thank Mr.Vidyasagar, Lecturer in Clinical Psychology, AIISH, and Mr.Basaviah, Reader, Department of Maths, RCE, without whose assistance numerals in this project would not be available.
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- I highly appreciate the in timely assistance and support rendered by my classmates and friends Ms.Jaya, Sheila, Manju and others.
- My sincere thanks to Mrs.Rajalakshmi without whose nimble fingers, this project could not have been typed, in so short a time.

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PROLOGUE

Hearing is the most expedient basis for normal language acquisition and language is the key-stone of our modern society.

The ability to speech and our most precious gift of language is unique to man. He has paved way for his supremacy ia this vast universe of creatures because of his rich faculty of speech, enabling him to speak, listen and exchange thoughts and ideas. If man was a contestant in the "all creatures Olympics" he would noteven earn a bronze medal. But if there was an oration contest, he would be the only winner cun, participant.

Normal language acquisition in a child requires adequate sensory input with rich and abundant speech stimulation and adequate processing abilities. Hindrance to any one of these leads to hindrance of normal language acquisition. By and far the commonest cause of any delay in speech and language. is an impairment in the organ of hearing which Impede the infant from hearing words. sentences and other environmental sounds.

Hearing impairment in a child restricts the attainment of his best potentials for language, constrains his personal development. gives rise to aberrant emotional behaviour and culminates in poor educational achievement. This is because there exists a critical period for the development of language function and a deprivation of auditory input would impede the acquisition of almost all aspects of language (young and McConnel, 1957; strong, 1958; Nannally and Bleurton, 1960) Cooper, 1967; and Ouigley, et al, 1974).

This emphasis the need for early identification of hearing loss, so that its adverse effects may be contained to a certain degree through rehabilitation and we can help him to develop to his fullest in the society. To give him every opportunity to achieve this. an accurate diagnosis and identification of his problem is imperative.

In the recent past, number of tests have been developed for the diagnosis of hearing loss such as-

Behavioural observation audiometry: which includes tests such as screening test for children (Downs and sterrn, 1964; Awakening test (wedenberg, 1956; Localisation audiometry (northern and Downs, 1967)

According to Northern and Downs (1967) the different responses that are observable are -

a) Eyeblink/eyelid activity including -

1) Definite eyeblink; (2) Fluttering of eyes; (3) Contraction of eye, and eyebrows.

- b)Moro's reflex- Violent startle reaction, jerking of the entire body, shaking or shouldering of arms and legs.
- <u>Cessation</u> of activity: Marked quietening of cry and arm .
 or limb movements. Range of response varies from
 stopping cry momentarily
 - stopping of playing
- d) <u>Limb movement</u> may occur in response to a duditory stimulus.
- e) <u>Head turning</u> towards or away from sound. Head turn may be direct toward either side. or stretching of neck. raising of head upwards.
- f) Grimacing
- g) Sucking rate increases in response to acoustic stimulus.
- h) Arousal from sleep
- i) Change in breathing patterns as a response to the stimulus.
- j) Widening of eyes.

Conditioned audiometry: for the slightly older child such as -Play audiometry -Barr, 1965; Visual reinforcement audiometry (VRA) - Liden and Kankkonen, 1961; Peek-a-boo-Audiometry - Vander Host and Kuypey, 1969, Picture in the window ideatificatioa test -Houg, Beccaro and Guilford, 1967; Peep show audiometry - Dix and Hallpike, 1947; story telling test - Millar, 1963; Fairy tale audiometry in children - Lesak, 1970; Tangible reinforcement operant conditioning audiometry - (IROCA) Spgadlin and Llyod, 1968. Other objective and electrophysiological measures of hearing acuity in a child include : Electrodermal response audiometry? Electrocochleography: Brain stem evoked response audiometry (BSERA)? Respiratory audiometry; Middle latency responses (MLR); Cardiac audiometry, etc.

These are some of the innumerable ways available to us for the purpose of screening the young child (0-3 years). Most of these require expensive and cumbersome instruments and in a country like ours financial constraints, non-availability of instruments and personnel make these objectives, indispensable. As a result, many children go unidentified and are deprived of rehabilitation at an earliest age. So an inexpensive and economical screening strategy should be adopted.

Noise makers have been found useful in identifying deafness in the paediatric population (Fulgrath, 1971; and Barr, 1955). Noise makers seem to be the most accessible tool to test hearing loss in children. They may be used to 1) cover wide range of frequency

- 2) cover wide range of intensity
- 3) not provide any visual cues.

Many a time, it becomes incongruently difficult for us to extend our facilities to the rural masses and even some strata of the urban masses where audiologists are not available. Hence the present study was carried out to aid in the selection of commercially available noise Makers or play materials, in identification of the hearing impaired children. These can be used by parents and Anganwadi workers in areas that are incapacitated to avail the facilities of experts to identify the hearing impaired child.

Rehabilitation follows once the child is identified and fitted with a hearing aid. How can simple play materials be used effectively by parents and other non-professional workers to rehabilitate the hearing impaired child? A few suggestions for the same have been included here.

SURVEY AND CLASSIFICATION OF THE COMMERCIALLY AVAILABLE PLAY MATERIALS

Toys are an outlet to creativity and imagination. They help enhance his personal growth and develop his motor and perceptual abilities. A survey of these was performed by procuring catalogues from different manufacturers all over India. An analysis of these catalogues was done and the following criteria were chosen for their classification.

- Spectral quality of the acoustic stimuli: The spectra of the toys cover wide range of frequency and intensity. Its classification may be based on its frequency as high (above 2000 Hz). mid or speech frequencies (500-2000Hz) and low frequencies (Less than 500 Hz) and on intensity of acoustic stimuli as soft (less than 50 ds SPL) or loud (greater than 50 dB SPL).
- 2) Musical/non-musical quality of acoustic stimuli produced by the play material. Musical toys are those toys that produce a melodious and harmonious pitch and quality. A number of such musical toys available in the market today are toy xylophone, musical baby, etc.
- Age of the child.the preference of play materials varies with age of the child. A child of 0-1 year prefers to play

with rattles, teethers etc. which he can grasp in his hand and move. A 1-2 year old child prefers to play with manipulatable and movable toys like pull along toys etc. At 3-6 years age child becomes interested in competitive games, engineering toys which require construction and imagination.

- 4) Utility of play Material. Play materials may be used for mere play and fun or may be used to enhance his motor perceptual/visual coordination. The latter may be called developmental toys eg. building blocks, educational toys etc.
- 5) Electrical or non-electrical toys. Electrical toys are those toys that are actuated by electricity when the power source may be alternate current or direct current. Many battery operated toys are available such as battery operated vehicles. crying baby and alternate current (AC) operated musical piano,
- 6) Materials with which the toys are constructed. The spectral quality of acoustic stimuli varies with materials of its construction eg. Wooden toys produce low frequency noise and damp other frequencies while metallic toys produce noise of high frequency.
- 7) Quality of play material may be based on its durability, size, shape, attractiveness, mobile or immobile, replacable components available or not etc.

- 8) Manufacturing companies of these sources of acoustic stimuli. A number of such companies have come up in the recent past. Such as Leo, Funskool, etc.
- Cost of toys varies depending on its quality, durability, material etc.
- 10) Special toys are a special mention for special children as modified toys for the cerebral palsied child or for the mentally retarded child. Eg. Large toys fitted on wheel chairs that are easily manipulatable by the cerebral palsied child.

METHODOLOGY

The study was carried out in two stages.

- Stage-1: Evaluation of the effectiveness of commercially
 available sources of acoustic stimuli 1B identifica tion of hearing impaired children.
- Stage-2: Selection of appropriate commercially available sources of acoustic stimuli for identification and rehabilitation of the hearing impaired children and brief guidelines on the same.

Stage-1:

<u>Subjects:</u> Ten hearing inpaired children, whose hearing thresholds ranged from 60-90 dB HL when tested in free field condition.

Equipment: The following equipment were used in the study.

- 1) A computerised real time analyzer (FONIX 6500)
- 2) A diagnostic audiometer with provision for free field testing (Madsen OB 822)

3) Commercially available sources of acoustic stimuli. <u>Test environment</u>: The test environment was isolated and sound treated. The ambient noise levels in the test room were within permissible limits of less than 20 dB (A) (IS.1977). 9



A COMPUTERIZED REAL TIME ANALYZER (FONIX 6500)



NOISE MAKING PLAY MATERIALS USED IN THE STUDY.

Procedure: A survey of commercially available sources of acoustic stimuli was performed by obtaining catalogues from manufacturers all over India. Bases on this, these sources of acoustic stimuli were classified broadly.

Due to time constraints in procuring these materials, 20 of them were chosen according to their availability. Spectral analysis was carried out for the play materials using a computerised real time analyser. Presentation of the source of acoustic stimuli was one meter away from microphone. A print out of the spectra was obtained. Among the twenty play Materials taken, ten were chosen in low, mid and high frequency range having peak intensities between 60-90 dB SPL. (Table-1).

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2. 3.	2000	72.7
3. 4.	2600	66.6
	2900	79.2
б.	3500	77.9
	4200	62.9
7. 8.	6700	69.2
9.	7400	60.0
10.	7700	66.6

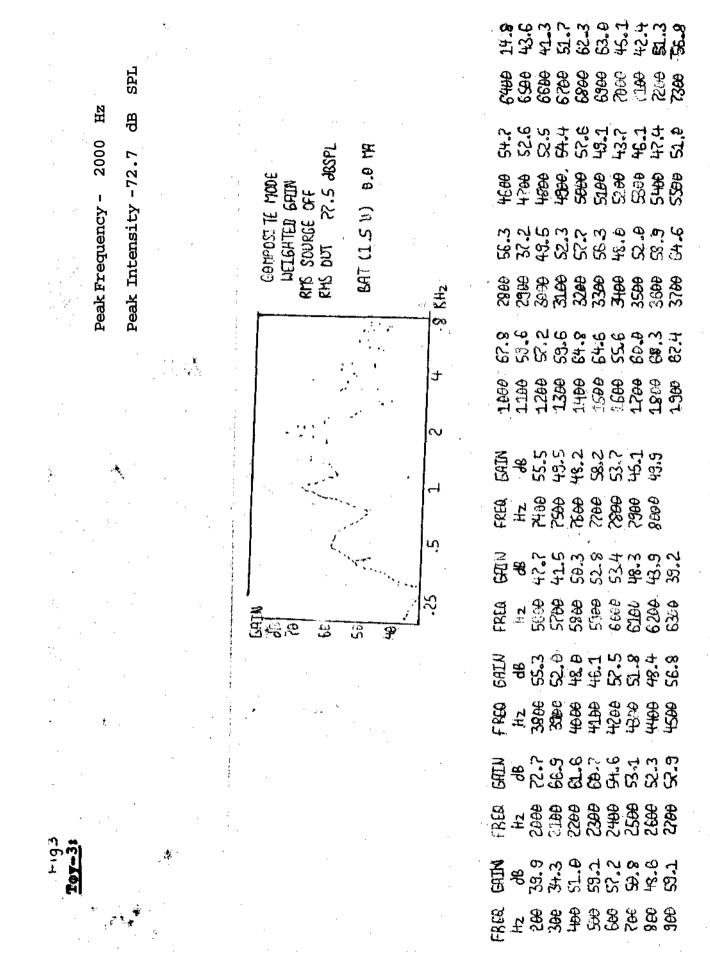
Table-1: Showing Spectra of different play materials used for the study.

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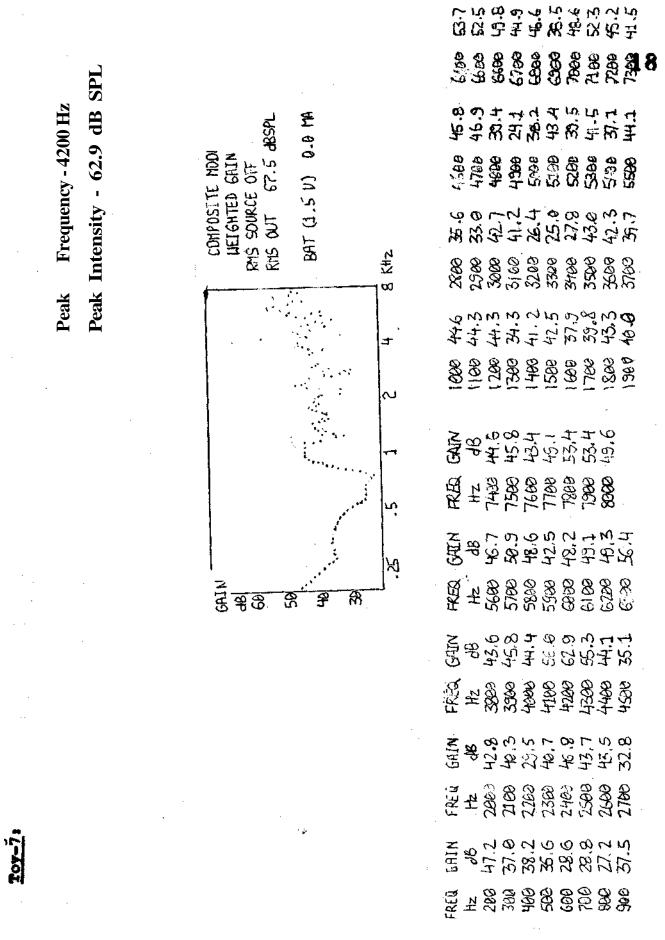
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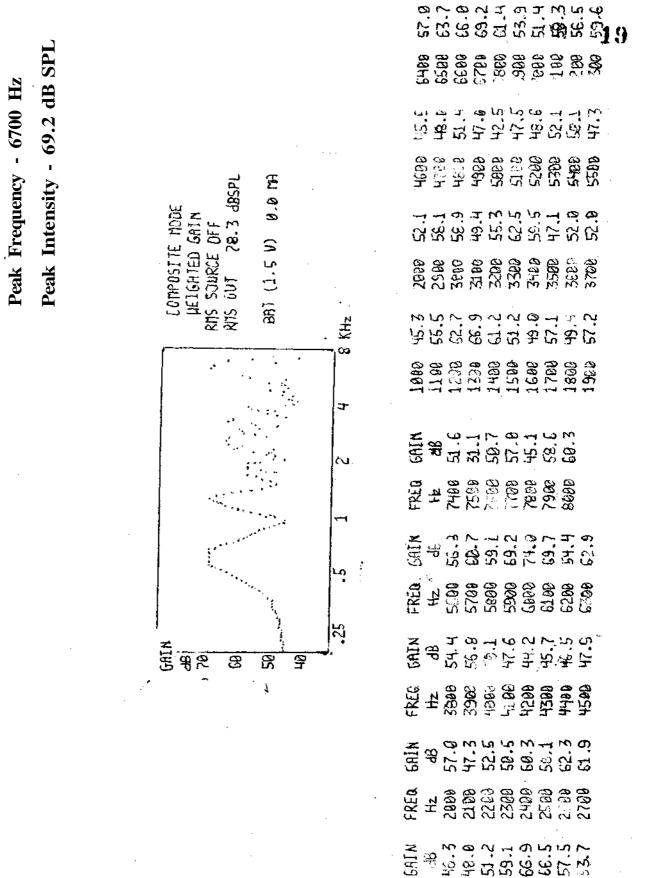
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For evaluating the effectiveness of these materials in identification of hearing impaired children the following procedure was adopted.

Ten auditorily trained hard of hearing children were screened using narrow band noise (NBN) in a free field situation using a diagnostic audiometer. The children were comfortably seated at a distance of one meter from the loud speaker placed at 45° azimuth. Eye blinking, widening of eye, body movements, cessation of activity and localisation (Northern, and Downs, 1967 were considered as responses.

The same children were screened using the ten selected sources of acoustic stimuli which were presented one meter away from subject. Each stimuli was presented five times and 50% response criteria was chosen i.e. responses greater than 3 was considered response for a stimulus.

Figure-1 give a comparison of responses given from Table-2 and Table-3. Due to non-availability of noise making play materials, peak frequency of these play materials could not be exactly matched with audiometric test frequency. So peak frequency of noise making play materials at 500, 1000, 2000, 2600, 2900, 3500, 4200, 6700,7400 and 7700 Hz were compared with audiometric test frequency, 500, 1000, 2000, 3000, 3000, 4000, 4000, 6000, 8000, 8000 H3 respectively. Then number of valid and invalid responses were obtained (Fig.1). The <u>percentage</u> of <u>valid</u> responses in low, mid and high frequency range was obtained by

No.of valid X100 Total responses

Stage-2:

<u>Subject:</u> Five hard of hearing and five normal children in age range 0-3 years belonging to mid-socio economic status. <u>Equipment</u> Selected sources of acoustic stimuli in Stage-1. <u>Questionnair e:</u> Appendix-A.

Then The play materials were distributed among five hearing impaired children and five normal children in age range of 0-3 years. The responses of these children to the play materials was obtained using a combined approach of questionnaire and interview. The parents of these children were interviewed by an audiologist who was familiar with the questionnaire. Thus it was ensured that appropriate answer was elicited. This information was used to guide the parents of hearing impaired children in age range of 0-3 years in selection of play materials and suggesting activities for hearing screening and rehabilitation.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

These have been discussed in two stages. Stage-1:

The results obtained by audiometric screening and screening using the selected commercially available sources of acoustic stimuli were recorded. (Fig 11). Figure-12. indicates 74% relation between audiometric screening and screening with the play materials at low-mid frequency (less than 3000 Hz) and 70% at high frequency (greater than 3000 Hz) for the hearing impaired children in the age range (0-3 years) i.e. 74% of children could be identified as hearing low-raid frequency hearing loss and 70% of children having high frequency hearing loss, accurately using the play materials. A slightly better relationship has been obtained at low frequency than at high frequency. However, we can say that, the high firequeney sources of acoustic stimuli are also usefulin identifjriag high frequency hearing loss in the hearing impaired child.

Hence the commercially available sources of acoustic stimuli can be used effectively to screen the hearing impaired children. So it has been suggested low and which of these commercially available sources of acoustic stimuli can be used for this purpose, after analysing the results obtained from questionnaire used in Stage-2.

Frequency (H3)								
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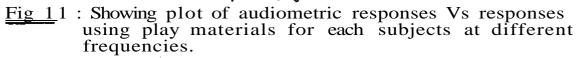
<u>Table-2</u>: Showing response obtained from the subjects to narrow band noise in free field.

Sub -	Frequency (H3)									
jects	5000	1000	2000	2600	2900	3500	4200	6700	7200	7700
	Intensity(dB SPL)							-		
	72.2	71.0	72.7	66.6	79.2	77.9	62.9	69.2	60	66.6
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1.	-	+	+	+		+	-			+
2.	+	+	+	+	+	+ +		+	+	+
3.	+	+	-		+		- +	—	-	
4.	+		+	+	+			-	-	-
5.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
6.	-		-	-	-	+	-	+	-	
7.	-	+	+	+	+	+ +		-	+	
8.	+	+	-	+	+	+ -		+	-	+
9.	+	+	+	+	+	+ +		+		-
10.	+	-	+	+	+	+ +		-	+	-

Table-3: Showing subjects responses present/absent to selected available sources of acoustic stimuli.

°′ **26**

10	<-spec	ch fre F	equenc +	γ —; + _ + * *	← Higi +/ *	frequency
9	+	+ *	+ 1	• + • *	 + * * +	- + _ * * *
8	+	* +	* 4 - *	+ + +	. + + + +	* * *
7		+ *	* + + *	* *	+ *	* * *
6	- *	*	* *	-	* * + +	* * *
Subjects -	+ *	+ *	+ + * *	÷ [+ +	+ + _ + * *
Subje	+	*	* *	*	. * *	* * *
3	* +	+ +	* *	*	* *	* * *
2	+ *	+ *	+ + * *	 + + +	• * • •	* + + + + + *
1	*	*	÷ ÷		• •	<u>*</u> = +
<u> </u>		м М	2. K	2.9K		× × ×
T	. 11 01		Fr	equer	сунд->	



* - indicates audiometric response

+ - indicates response to play material present

- - Indicates response to play material absent

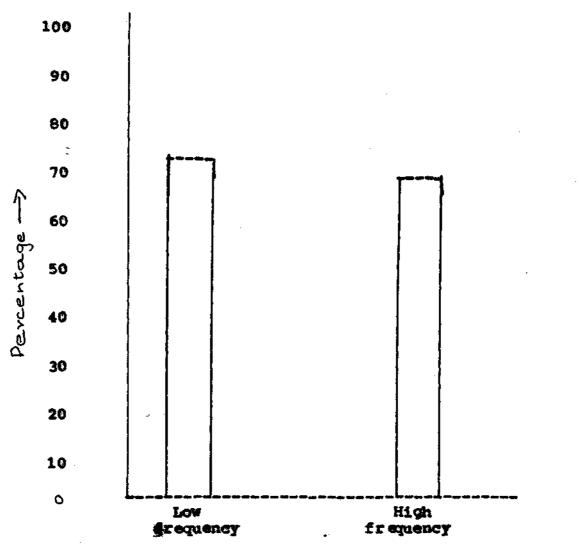
- At 500 Hz, subject-1 indicates response to play material

- * <u>absent</u> at levels <u>greater</u> than audiometric response ie. 65 dB.(From Table 2)
- + at 1KHz, for subject-1 indicates response to play material
- * Present at levels greater than audiometric response ie,65 dB.
- * at 4.2 KHz for subject-1 indicates response to play material
- * <u>absent</u> at. level lower than andlometric response at 4 KHz ie. 70 dB.
- * at 4.2 KHz for subject-2 indicates response to play material + <u>present</u> at levels <u>lower</u> than audiometric response at 4 KHz ie. 70 dB.

Responses 🚆 and 🚆 are considered invalid because

-indicates the play Material was not useful to indicate presence *of hearing at levels above audiometric thresholds.

indicates the play material indicates <u>presence</u> of hearing at levels below audiometric thresholds.



<u>Figuare-12</u> Showing percentage of valid responses between audiometric thresholds and responses to play materials at low-mid frequency (500 Hz to 2.9 KHz) and high frequency (3.0 to 7.7 KHz).

Stage-2:

An analysis of the responses obtained from the combined. interview and questionnaire method (Appendix-A) reveals the following.

Children in the age range (0-3 years) showed interest in playing with movable and attracting, toys (brightly coloured and large). The children of younger age (below 1½ years) ware attracted by rattles and the like; white the 3 year olds showed curioaity towards squeakers. Some of the one year olds were even afraid of the squeakers. These children (0-3 years) were interested in playing with the play materials for less than ten minutes and they preferred to play withthe toys alone. One child 3 years of age was interested in imaginary play like using the kanjeera and flat rattle as a rolling pin.

These Play meterials were reported to be useful to improve visuo-motor skills, to teach concepts to children as body parts. names of animals and birds (teaching vocabulary) to a 1-2¹/₂ year old child andprimary colours to a 3 year old.

It was also observed, that even with increasing number of toy manufacturing companies, parents prefer to buy their children toys of the child's choice. Parents belonging to the mid socio-economic group do not prefer any particular company. However they considered the durability, nontoxicity of toy and if the toy was dangerous to the child (like having sharp edges), before buying play materials for their children. No differences were found between the normal and hearing impaired childs response to the play materials, except that the hearing impaired child seemed more interested in squeakers and the parents of these children found the low frequency toys particularly useful for auditory training.

A tabular chart may be prepared giving information about which toys best interest children of different ages. (Table-4)

		-Listening, eve movements and	following. Attention to movement. Awareness of its own movement.	Aiming and grasping (Baby associates movement with sound)			Discovery of mouth	Movement of hand and eyes toget - her (childs action produce a movement) Movement in lying position eg.	
Table-4 = Showing age related interst to play materials (0-3year)	Provide To encourage	0-6 months	Mobiles to fix on catrmusical following. Attention to movement. or silent. Baby mirror on Awareness of its own movement. side of cat.	Soft balls and foam bricks rattles with varying sounds.	Toys to string on cat and <i>pram</i> small light rattles easily grasped by baby.	6-12 months	Toys that are light [#] safe- suitable for woathing, eg. teethers.	Toys with suction base can be fixed on play tray. Toys that can be hung where baby can reach and grasp. Toys that move easily when touched.	Toys that move when touched.
	When the child can		Follow objects with eyes, (attention caught by sounds.	kick legs.	Begins to reach and grasp (But cannot yet sit without support) •		Beginning to put its hands	Bit supported at ist and Visuallyalert	Lies on tummy.

When the child can	Provide	П. П. С.
	12-18 months	
Spontaneously bang on table.	Drum, xylophone, hammer toys	More precise use of hands and
Nalk with support/without support.	Baby walkers and other push- toys on wheels. Pull along toys.	eyes. Confidence and independence. Better control of body move- ment. Refinement Of balance and walking skill,
Crawl and push objects along.	Balls of various sizes. Vari- ous push along toys especi- ally those on short rigid handles.	Increase Of range of mobility and hence exploration.
Imitate sounds,understand simple phrases & words.	Rag books and picture books. Telephone baby mirror.	Simple imitation in social context. Understanding of
Coordinate objects. Relate objects to a container.	Plastic pots and pans. Simple posting boxes (ie round and square box). Bricks and coloured cotton reels to put in and out. Large cupboard boxes and laundry basket.	Moving eyes and hand tgether Shape discrimination and putt- ing into countainer.
Begins to imitate par eats domestic duties.	Simple domestic items, broom, duster, plastic cup, spoon. hairbrush.	Simple domestic play.

To encourage		Move eye and hands together and to channel ' banging' into constructive play.	Improve use of hands and eyes Scribbling and later copying'	Simple building activity.	Controlled use of hand, eyes finger. Early representa- tional play.	Talking listening and conver- sations.	Imaginative play
Provide	19 months-2 year	Drum xylophone, and other hammer pegs.	Paper and jumbe pencil and crjyon	Building breaches and other stacking toys.	All toys with pegs.	Picture? books. Lift out pictures with puzzles underneath.	Simple domestic play eg. cookers and pans, tea sets, furniture etc.
When the child can		Drum with 2 sticks	Hold pencil	Build several bricks into a tower.	Use thumb/finger grasp- still preoccupied with container play.	Enjoy simple picture books and other simple pictures.	Recreate domestic situation.

When the child can	Provide	To encourage
	2 - 3 years	
Push and pull large items, climb steps with agility.	Large push along vehicles, trundle toy, wheel barrows.	Climbing on and off. Over come balance and steering.
Throw or kick a ball	Large plastic skittles, foot- ball	To develop aim and turn taking in games.
Manipulate with fingers and use 2 hands together.	Objects that can be explored with fingers.	Two handled play and five finger movement.
Give and take objects.	Objects that can be grasped and transferred from one hand to another, eg. rattles, plastic cotton rolls.	Practise in grasping and releasing. Bringing hand together in middle.

1. ACTIVITI ES FOR IDENTIFICATION OF THE HEARING IMPAIRED CHILD

The package of selected commercially available sources of acoustic stimuli used in this study with alternatives (other toys having similar range of peak frequency and intensity) may be used by parents or anganwadi workers? where hearing screening facilities are not availed. Auditory responses to the auditory stimuli way be observed as given by Northern and Downs (1967),

Once tile child is identified, the next step is to take him to the nearest audiologist and get him fitted with an appropriate hearing aid,

2. SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES FOR REHABILITATION INCLUDE;

a) Activities for auditory training

Auditory training is a set of procedures aimed at helping the aurally handicapped, become more proficient in attending to the sounds of speech, discriminating one from another and effecting an increase, in retention of sounds (Kelly).

The same package of play materials, as used in this study could be used as sources of acoustic stimuli, to, auditorily train the hearing impaired child. The low and mid frequency toys would be especially useful for the profound sensori-neural hearing impaired child. Initially auditory awarenss is to be worked upon, later go on to activities needing gross and fine auditory discrimination.

Auditory awareness is to make the child aware of the presence of sound. Any of the play materials used in this study may be used for this purpose. start with the low-mid frequency toys for the profound sensory-neural hearing loss child.

Bombard the child with sounds. For the child less than 2 years age present the stimulus close to his car and observe for his auditory response such as eye blink, eye widening, cessation of activity, crying etc. For the older child greater than 2 years, he nay be trained to give conditional responses to the auditory stimuli.

Have your child and you. facing each other. You may use a few blocks also. Ask your child to have the block near his ear. Let your child watch you. Tell him that a sound will be heard when the rattle (for exmple) is Juggled. Make him understand that he has to listen to the sound when the rattle is moved. Use gestures, along with speech to make him. understand you. Tell him that Whenever he hears the sound or sees you move the rattle, he should place the block down. How move the rattle. In the first few trials help the child keep the block, You may have tO demonstrate the activity initially. Repeat the presentation of stimulus till your child responds consistantly to it. At the end Of the activity a tower of blocks May be found. Once the Child responds to the sound presented in front of him with visual cue, then go on to present the stimulus behind him. The ehild should now listen to the *sound* and respond to it. If child is not able to do it, go back to presentation of stimulus with visual cues.

Simil arly the child may be trained for different sounds produced by the different toys used in this study. Other alternatives toys may be used. Instead of blocks; leaves, stones,flowers may be used and responses to the stimulus nay be elicited by other interesting activities as the ehild jumping in response to sound etc.

Activity for auditory discrimination:

Here the child differentiates the sounds made by two different sound sources, Onee the ehild is aware of the two sound sources, then go on to this step. Initially use toys hearing high and low peak frequency. The large red rattle

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(500 Hz peak frequency) and aeroplane(7700 Hz peak frequency) used in this study may be used. This can be worked upon for child greater than two years, when he can give conditional response to both sound stimuli. crayons or colour pencils may be used.

Have the two toys placed in front of the child. Draw the large rattle and an aeroplane on two sheets of paper and keep them in front of the child. Tell the child to colour a portion of rattle when rattle sound (low frequency) is produced and to colour portion of aeroplane when the high frequency sound is produced. Initially help your child by colouring then yourself, till he understands the game. Present both sounds one after other with sufficient time gap between the Allow the child to listen and discriminate between the two. two sounds and perform the required activity (response). This is done initially in front of the child. Later present the sounds behind the child and let him perform the same activity. Once he gives consistent responses then the difference in frequency between sound sources may be decreased. Eg. Use red rattle (500 Hz - peak frequency and white rattle - 6.2 KHz peakfrequency) and let him differentiate between them and so on.

b) Language teaching:

The deaf child is totally cut off from the world of verbal communication. He has very little exposure to speech and language hence he fails to think by himself; creating an overall retardation in him. However, helping him acquire language is not an unattainable task. You have to train him and help him acquire it. It is undoubtedly not an easy one. Language teaching would include teaching him to comprehend and express. You cannot expect your child to understand sentences rightaway you have to go step by step from simple vocabulary to simple two word sentences, 3 word sentences and slowly to more complex ones. Here are a few simple activities that may be carried out for the same, using the package of toys that have been used In this study.

Activity :

1. Developing concept of bird duck: Have about 4 toys with you, two of which could be the two squeakers (ducks) used in this study. Keep one duck and another toy with you and let your child have the other two. Now show him the duck and say "duck" several times. Next remote it from his sight and ask him to

five you 'duck'. Before this you can also make him match between the two ducks ie. to make him match objects of similar form. By doing this you also help your child to concentrate and improve his memory. Repeat till your child does the activity correctly and consistently. To generalize the concept, ask your child to match the duck with other picture of duck or actual duck if available. The same activity can be combined with auditory training also by asking him to pick out the duck when he hears a sound. Similar interesting activities may be carried out.

2) **Develop the concept of , aeroplane'**: Again as given in 1), chose 4 toys - one of which is an aeroplane. Show him the action of how it takes off with vocalisation. This gave can be used to make him vocalise also as 'uu', when the aeroplane take off. Paper cuttings of aeroplane can be used to make the activity interesting.

Similarly other toys can be used to teach the child the concept of different animals, birds, vehicles, etc. Use these toys that are mobile because the child (1-3 years) is most interested in such toys. For the younger child, large toys may be used, which are nontoxic and do not have sharp edges so he can mouth them if he wants to.

Helping your child learn to comprehend different names of birds and vehicles is not enough. You should help him communicate using verbal responses.

Activity:

1) To make him <u>vocalise</u> vowels /a//i//u/, diphthongs /au//ui/etc. Move the rattle around and he has to vocalise /a/. Give him a tactile feedback by placing his hand on your neck and help him feel the vibration of vocale ords. Let the aeroplane take off and let him say /uu/. Use similar interesting activities to help him oocalise.

2) To elicit monosyllabic utterances from him such as /va/ /ta//po/ete. meaning 'come' 'give' 'go' respectively.

Any of the toys used in this study may be used Eg. Use the rattle. Place it on the floor. If the child wants it, he has to indicate the gesture 'give' and also come out with the correct utterance /ta/' First show him the tongue position in the production of /ta/. Let him imitate you. Then make him vocalise giving him tactile feedback by placing his hand on your neck aad the other hand on his neck. Encourage him to say /ta/ for whichever toy he want. Let the toy jump tow ards him as he comes out with the utterance /ta/. Initially let him use gestures, gradually fade it out. Let him know, he will get the toy only if he asks for it.

Similarly teach him to say /va/ /po/ etc. Then gradually go on the bigger utterances. Give him a visual feedback and encourage him to use the words meaningfully. Let comprehension and expression go almost hand ia hand. Most often comprehension precedes expression. Let this not worry you. It is a normal phenomena.

Toys are an outlet tocreativity, imagination and teaching. So toys used in this study may be useful to-

- Auditoril train your child

- Teach concepts of birds (activity-1) to the 2 year old child. Other activities as concept of vehicles, colours can be taught to the 3 year old child.

- Cut out of different vocabulary items also may be used to teach him concepts.

Speech utterances as /ta/ /va/ /po/ names of toys giving them simple bisyllabic names as 'pom pom' for squeaker, ba-ba for duck etc may be taugh As observed from play behaviour as recorded by parents of hearing impaired children, the child (0-3 years) prefers to play with large,colourful and moveable toys. He does not show interest in an activity for greater than 10 minutes. So change the activity frequently. Keep these in mind Choose the, toys according to interests and age of your child when playing with, and teaching your child These toys with Table can be used alternatives/additions to teach your deaf child and help him become an effective communicator in society. So teach your deaf child through play, fun and games and it is sure going

to be interesting and rewarding, both for you and your child. You yourself will be surprised to see how your child's new world unfurls and have parts of your jigsaw fall into place. Of course, an experts advise, will always be available to you at your nearest speech therapist. You are not alone in this unhill task we are with you.

EPILOUGE, LIMITATIONS AND RECOMMEDATIONS

The present study was aimed at -

- 1. Evaluating the effectiveness of noise making play materials in identification of hearing impaired children (0-3 years).
- 2. To give guidance to parents and other nonprofessionals workers in the selection of play materials in rehabilitation of the hearing impaired child and to suggest a few activities for the same.

Tem commercially available sources of acoustic stimuli were chosen having peak frequency of 500-8000 Hz and peak intensity of 60-80 dB SPL after carrying out a spectral analysis. Ten hearing impaired children (0-3 years) were for Screened for hearing acuity using audiometer, and the sources of acoustic stimuli which were chosen after spectral analysis. Both results, were compared to evaluate the effectiveness of the commercially available sources of acoustic stimuli in identification of these hearing impaired children.

Then these tea noise making play materials were distributed to five normal and five hard of hearing children (0-3 years) along with a questionnaire. The children's play behaviour with these play materials was obtained by method of interview and questionnaire. These responses were used to guide parents in selection of play materials for rehabilitation of their hearing impaired child and activities for rehabilitation of these children. The findings of the present study are:

- 1. Noise making play Materials are useful in identification of hearing impaired children 0-3 years.
- 2. Guidelines have been given to guide the parents and other non-professional workers in <u>selection</u> of play materials and activities given for rehabilitation of these children.

Limitations and recommendations:

Play materials available in different regions could be collected and subjected to similar measurements and analysis.

Periodical reevaluation of the play materials could be done to assess the reliability of theiroutput.

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APPENDIX-A

QUESTIONNAIRE.

Name Of	the	child:	Age:							
1. Name the toys which your Child favoured to play with?										
2. Your child liked to play with the toy because of its										
- attractiveness										
- sound it	z makes									
- it is mo	ovable									
- it produ	- it produces a light flash									
- others	- others (specify)									
(Tick whe	(Tick wherever appropriate).									
3. Was any to	by rejected	by your chil	d? YES/NO							
4. If yes, the	e/reason cou	ld be								
- he/she h	as outgrown	the toy								
- he/she i	s too young	for the to	I							
- he/she d	oes not have	e the dexter	ity to manipulate	operate						
the toy.										
- others	(specify)									
(Tick wher	ever approp	riate).								
5. Your child	l played wit	h the toy fo	or							
- ten minu	ites									

- more than ten minutes (specify)
- less than ten minutes
- 6. your child played with the toy
 - alone
 - . with his siblings
 - with peers of his age
 - with an elder person (specify)

- 7. Was the toy used to teach
 - colours
 - numbers
 - shapes
 - body parts
 - others (specify)
- If you intend to buy a new toy for your child, would you prefer -
 - a toy of the child's choice
 - educable toys
 - others (specify)
- 9. What criteria would you use to choose the toy.
 - cost of toy
 - attractiveness of toy
 - durability of toy
 - noise it makes
 - others (specify)
- 10. Would you prefer any particular manufacturing company and why?

" This is not the end

It is not even the

beginning of the end.

But it is perhaps the end of the beginning".