



Dear

Hearing Our Way is an educational tool specifically designed for children with hearing loss that can be used as a supplemental resource as part of a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP). Students enjoy reading nonfiction text and personal narratives about other young people overcoming obstacles, as well as interacting with content such as games, riddles, and writing prompts. All content is written to be relevant and engaging for students, and speech, language and listening tools are presented throughout the publication.

Hearing Our Way fits into most IEP plans in the following ways:

- *Hearing Our Way* provides a strong focus on self-advocacy. Past content has included articles such as *IEP My Way*, *Becoming Your Own Advocate*, and *Your Personal Hearing Device Kit*. Whether directly in articles like these or more indirectly in interviews with inspiring role models who discuss their IEPs and accommodations, self-advocacy skills are a main theme in every issue of *Hearing Our Way*.
- *Hearing Our Way* is tailored to meet the speech and language needs of its readers. Each issue features *Words, Words, Words*, a column that presents one idiom and breaks down its meaning. In *Fun & Games*, jokes and riddles are carefully selected for students with hearing loss to learn and understand. Difficult or unusual vocabulary is reinforced in bold with a definition. A specific language symbol marks speech, language, and vocabulary-based content.
- *Hearing Our Way* keeps informational articles engaging and presented with a variety of instructional aids (e.g. graphics, diagrams, and high-quality images) to meet the needs of visual and diverse learners. Information is presented in short, manageable chunks with bold headlines. Each issue includes a wide range of topics to stimulate interest from a wide range of diverse students.
- *Hearing Our Way* can be easily adapted for classroom use. This resource lends itself to teacher-led and peer-led discussion and thought questions as well as read-aloud functionality. It can be adapted to lower and higher reading and language levels.
- Parental Involvement is a critical piece of IEP success, and *Hearing Our Way* is available online 24/7 and can be accessed at home for caregiver sharing and support. Print copies can also be sent home for family reading and assignments, per the teacher's choice.

Although *Hearing Our Way* was not created as strictly an IEP supplementary product, it contains many features that help learners to make solid progress in their IEP goals, most often including improving speech, language, listening, and self-advocacy skills that are needed to progress and succeed in school and beyond. There is no other magazine designed to meet these goals for students with hearing loss, and no other publication that targets self-advocacy skills in such a strong, focused way.

For more information, please visit www.hearingourway.com.

Sincerely,