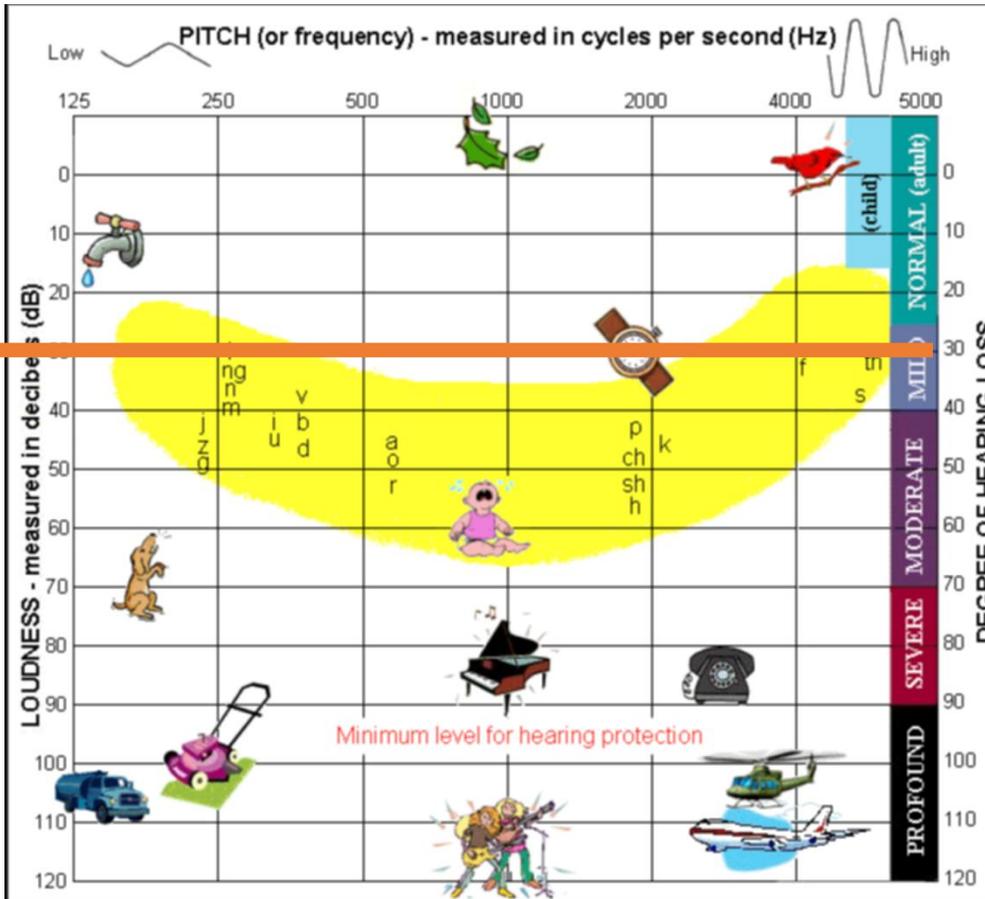




# March 2024 Hearing

Following on from the last newsletter, where I talked about a perforated ear drum, I wanted to bring your attention to hearing and what sounds we can hear with what level of hearing loss.



This is called the 'speech banana'. It is a visual representation of the sounds we hear and the hearing we need to be able to hear these sounds.

On the right-hand side, it shows the different levels of hearing loss. Across the top it shows the pitch or frequency of the sounds.

Normal hearing would mean that you can hear everything on this graph.

For a profound hearing loss, you can only hear the low loud sounds of a helicopter, van and truck for example.

When someone has a hearing test, the audiologist plots the pitch and frequency on a page and interprets the findings. If someone is said to have a mild hearing loss, (which can be caused temporarily by ear infections), it would mean that children have difficulty hearing everything above this red line. They can hear everything below it.

To help put this in perspective Imagine you have just said –  
save your fruit for a snack = ave or uit or a na

A child may only hear the black sounds. Meaning there can be misinterpretation of an instruction.

At the time of writing this, there is no additional support for mild hearing loss. Mild hearing loss can be for a short time, intermittent following colds etc. or over a longer period of time.

Things to consider if you suspect a mild hearing loss:

- referral to an audiologist for a hearing test
- placement in the classroom for teaching, e.g. at the front of the classroom;
- reducing background noise when talking;
- Facing the child when talking to them;
- Modelling vocabulary with high frequency words in a small setting with visuals
- The use of visuals in general when teaching

If you have any questions, please contact us at Building Blocks for more information.

Building Blocks Therapeutics Inc.

[www.otslp.org](http://www.otslp.org) Email: [shalmin@otslp.com](mailto:shalmin@otslp.com) or [info@otslp.com](mailto:info@otslp.com)

Phone: (905) 510-3879