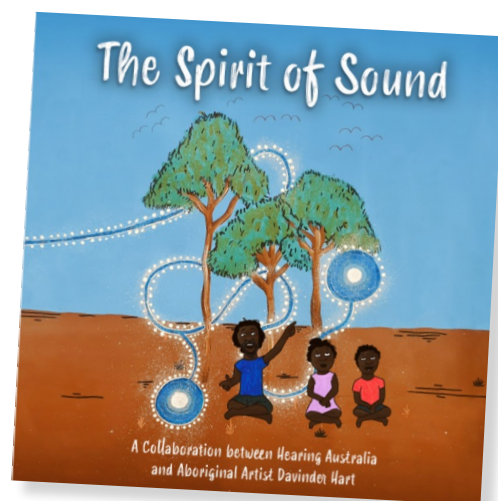


The Spirit of Sound factsheet for parents and carers

Hearing Australia has proudly partnered with Noongar artist Davinder Hart to create The Spirit of Sound storybook. The storybook shows the importance of hearing and sound through cultural traditions and connections. Access The Spirit of Sound eBook online at: www.hearing.com.au/Spirit-of-Sound-2025



Why hearing matters

Did you know?

- Children with hearing loss may take longer to talk and learn words. This may make it harder for them to join in with family and friends. They may also struggle more at school.
- Poor hearing can make it difficult for children to engage and learn at school.

There are two main types of hearing loss:

- **Sensorineural hearing loss:** This hearing loss is caused by damage deep inside the ear or to the nerve that carries sound to the brain. Most of the time it can't be fixed and it's more common as people get older.
- **Conductive hearing loss:** This type of hearing loss happens when something blocks sound from travelling through the ear. Fluid, earwax, or infections can block the sound. It happens more often in children and can usually be fixed.

Signs of hearing loss that parents and carers may notice include:

- Your child may speak louder or softer than other children as they can't hear themselves well.
- Your child may imitate or copy what other children do as they can't hear instructions well.
- Your child may not engage in activities such as story time or small-group games as they have difficulty hearing or understanding activities.
- Your child may be less likely to respond or understand when background noise is present.
- Your child may become easily tired because hearing and listening require extra effort.
- Your child may show signs of frustration through their behaviour.

Ask your doctor to look in your child's ears at every visit.
Regular ear and hearing checks help children to listen, learn and thrive.