

QUICK START GUIDE:
SESSION EIGHT TOPICS
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During the last session, it is important to provide participants with resources that can help them in the future. At the conclusion of the program, you should consider conducting a program evaluation to help you identify ways to improve your next Group AR program.

What Resource are Available?

Provide participants with resources that can help them in the future. Below are some resources on the Internet that participants should consider reading and browsing:

- Hearing Loss Association of America
- Association of Late Deafened Adults
- Association of Medical Professional with Hearing Loss
- Better Hearing Institute

If there are any local or community resources for persons with hearing loss, you should be sure to mention them to the group. You may also want to consider creating a handout with a list of resources.

Tips for Getting the Most out of Lipreading

Although some people with hearing loss seem to be experts with lipreading, others often claim that they are not very good with lipreading. Regardless of talent with lipreading or not, almost everyone with hearing loss can benefit in some degree from watching people's lips when they are communicating. Explain some of the ways for participants to get the most out of lipreading, such as:

- Watch the talker's lips and eyes and body language. This may give the lipreader supplemental information to what they are able to hear, plus it may let them become aware of the talker's mood, facial expressions, etc., which in turn may help them understand the talker.
- Make sure the talker is facing any bright light. Otherwise, it may be very difficult for you to discern what is being said because of the glare.
- When possible, try to find out what the topic of conversation is, so that you will have a gist of what is being said.
- Practice your lipreading skills by watching the evening news with the volume turned down.
Pay close attention to the speaker.
- When you hear a word that does not make sense, think about word's context. For example, you hear: "Who put the blue cows in the bathroom?"
- Identify that the sentence is about a bathroom. That would make it easier to come to the assumption that the talker said: "Who put the blue towels in the bathroom?"

Program Evaluation

At the last session, we recommend that you take some time to allow your participants to give you feedback and evaluate the program. This gives participants the opportunity to let you know if they thought the program was helpful, what they liked best about the program and what changes they think would make the program even better. An old adage is that we learn more from criticism than from compliments.

A sample post-program evaluation form can be found on the next page.

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Name (optional): _____

Date: _____

1. How many sessions did you attend?

2. Which session or sessions did you find most helpful?

3. Which session or sessions did you find least helpful?

4. Do you have any suggestions on how the sessions can be improved?

5. What was the greatest benefit you received from attending the sessions?

6. Were there any topics that you feel should have been covered but were not?

7. Would you recommend the program to others?