





What is Deaf-Blindness?

...the term "deaf-blind", with respect to children and youth, means having auditory and visual impairments, the combination of which creates such severe communication and other developmental and learning needs that they cannot be appropriately educated in special education programs solely for children and youth with hearing impairment, visual impairment, or severe disabilities, without assistance to address their educational needs due to these dual, concurrent disabilities (IDEA)

What does the DB Project do?

- Technical Assistance on various topics
 - Impact of deaf-blindness
 - Communication
 - Behavior
 - Educational programming
 - Transition
 - Social/emotional development
 - Assistive technology
 - Resources
 - Assessment
 - Curriculum development







Causes in Deaf-Blindness

- Hereditary Syndromes/Disorders
 - CHARGE Syndrome
 - Coloboma
 - Heart Defects
 - Artesia
 - Retardation of Growth
 - Genital Abnormalities
 - Ear Abnormalities
 - Usher Syndrome (I, II, III)
 - Down Syndrome



Causes of Deaf-blindness

- Prenatal/Congenital Complications:
 - Cytomegalovirus (CMV)
 - Microcephaly
 - Hydrocephaly
 - Congenital Rubella



Common Signs of Vision Impairments



Holding toys, books, etc. too close to the face.





Cortical Vision Impairment

"...a type of visual impairment that occurs because of brain damage. CVI differs from ocular forms of vision impairment in that the interference in visual function exists not in the structures of the eye or optic nerve, but in the visual processing centers and visual pathways of the brain".



Jan & Groenveld, 1993













































Resources

- Guidelines for Working with Students Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing in Virginia Public Schools
 - <u>http://www.doe.virginia.gov/special_ed/disabilities/sensory_dis</u> <u>abilities/hearing_impairment/guidelines_working_with_deaf.pdf</u>
- Technical Assistance Center for Children Who Are Deaf and Hard of Hearing
 - http://www.partnership.vcu.edu/programs/education /technical-assistance-center-for-children-who-aredeaf-and-hard-of-hearing/





<u>OHOA Mo</u>	<u>dules</u>	
Open hands, Open access: Deaf-Blind Int Learning Modules		
Module 1: An Overview of Deaf-Blindness and Instructional Strategies		
Learning Outcomes:		
 identify important facts that can be learned from Court of Children and Youth Who Are Deaf-Billind. Understand the importance of gathering informant student's teology to guide the development of an educational plan. Recognice that deaf-bilindness is a disability of act that results in significant challenges in interaction 0. Describe key instructional principles and strategie in educating and interacting with three learners. Provide examples of the rary of supports and re bilindness that are available for families and school 	ion about a effective ess to information and kaming, that are effective ources on deaf-	
Intervener Journal Module 1		
Module 1 Tipsheet		
🙍 Module 1 Outline		
Module 1 Accessibility Document		
Module 1 CEC Standards		
Module 1 Suggested Rubric		
🝋 News forum		









