

INTRODUCTION

Lack of full-time device use can prevent children with hearing loss from **reaching their maximum potential**. Many children entering our specialized Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) preschool program have less than full-time device use. Full-time use of hearing devices can be difficult to achieve for multiple reasons:

- 🔊 Poor retention
- 🔊 Lack of parental knowledge on wear time expectations
- 🔊 Presence of multiple caretakers for child
- 🔊 Removal of devices by child for attention
- 🔊 Removal of devices by child as a result of a power struggle
- 🔊 Lost or malfunctioning device

METHODS

1. We consistently tracked device wear-time for **10 preschool-aged children** (ages 3-5 years) for the 2024 calendar year
2. **Counseling was provided to parents** in various forms:
 - 🔊 Informing parents that data logging will be tracked consistently
 - 🔊 Discussing expectations for wear-time. We often provide the chart taken from [HearingFirst.org](https://hearingfirst.org/):

Age of Child	Minimum Recommended Wear Time
0-12 Months	8 Hours
13-24 Months	9 Hours
2-5 Years	10 Hours
6-10 Years	11 Hours
11+ Years	12 Hours

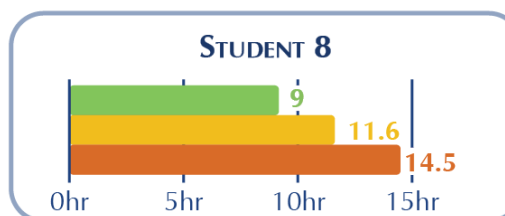
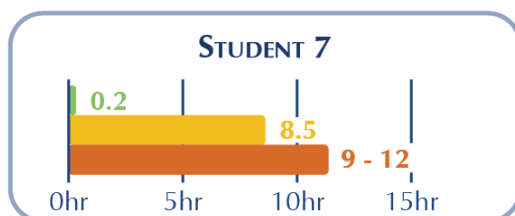
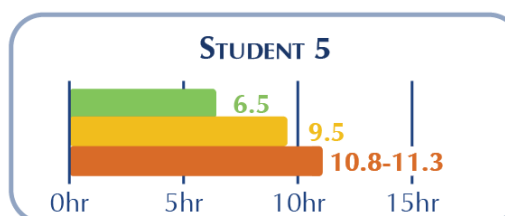
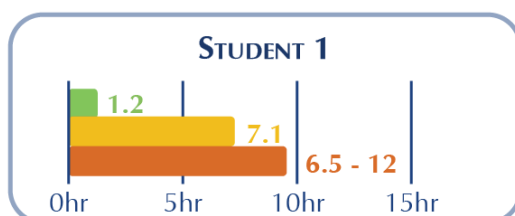
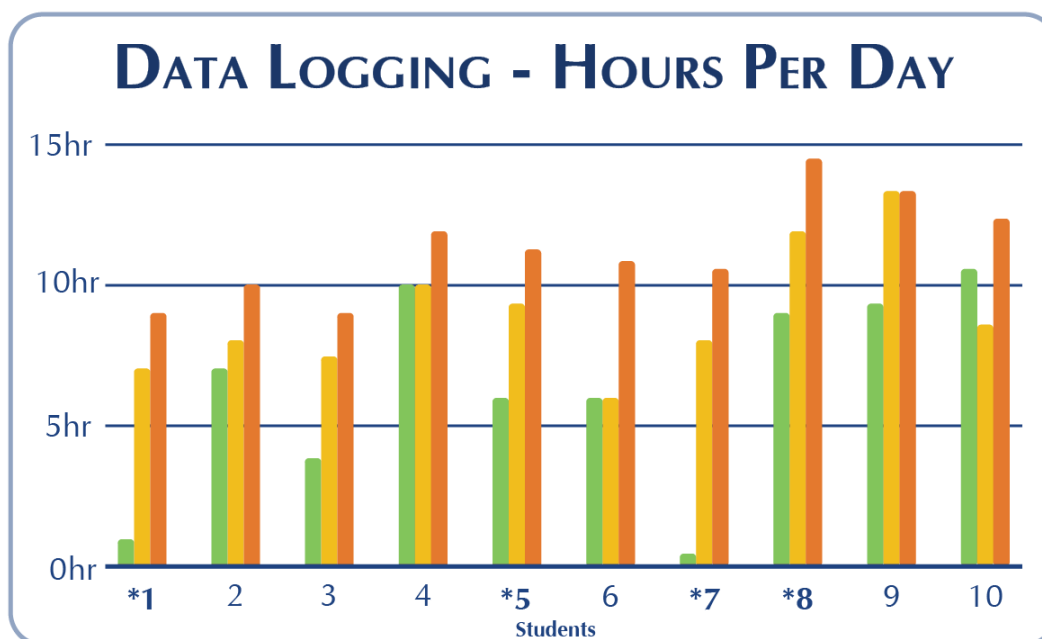
- 🔊 Assisting families with equipment needs to ensure functioning equipment at all times
- 🔊 Assisting families in trialing and procuring retention options
- Providing individual recommendations to parents (either in-person or online) to increase their child's device wear time
- 🔊 Offering parent education (in person or recorded) on the importance of device wear time
- 🔊 Providing consistent follow-up and support for families whose child's wear time does not meet expectations

USING DATA LOGGING TO INCREASE DEVICE WEAR-TIME IN PRESCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN

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RESULTS

- Day 1 = Student's first day of enrollment at DePaul School
- B2S 2024 = Student's first day of school after summer break (2024)
- Dec 2024 = Midpoint of three December 2024 data points



CONCLUSION

This data demonstrates that **consistent data logging and educating parents** on expected device wear-time can be effective tools to **increase overall device use** for preschool students in a specialized DHH program. Providing **consistent support and feedback to parents** regarding their child's device wear-time **can help achieve and maintain optimal device use**.