



National Apostolate for
Inclusion Ministry

Tip Sheet Adapted from
Materials in

**“Strategies in Teaching
Religion to Children and
Adults with Disabilities”**

Available from the Office of
Special Needs
Archdiocese of Dubuque
\$1.50 plus Shipping and
Handling

Office of Special Needs
Archdiocese of Dubuque
1229 Mt Loretta Ave
Dubuque, IA 52003-7800

(563) 556-2580 ext. 298

DBQCLF@arch.pvt.k12..ia.us

P.O. Box 218
Riverdale, MD 20738
phone: 800.736.1280
email: qnafim@aol.com

www.nafim.org

*Envisioning a Catholic Church Where People with Intellectual/Developmental
Disabilities Are Welcomed for Their Gifts and Their Presence*

Tips for Teaching Persons Who Are Deaf or Who Have Hearing Difficulties

By Sister Marci Blum, OSF, Office of Special Needs, Archdiocese of Dubuque

General

1. Seat the person in a area removed from noise sources, with adequate lighting and near speaker and, when present, interpreter
2. When there is an interpreter, the speaker should be close by
3. The speaker should speak clearly, slowly and normally
4. The speaker should look directly at the student and speak expressively
5. Remember, facial expressions, gestures, and body movements are all forms of communication
6. If necessary, use written communication
7. When changing the topic, indicate the new topic with a word or phrase
8. Use visual aids such as photos, Bible pictures, posters, videos, objects and religious materials
9. When appropriate, use assistive listening devices and acoustic buffers in the room

The Deaf Student

1. Stand where those who lip-read can get a clear view of your face
2. Use sign language, if the person knows sign language
3. If necessary, have a signer in the room
4. Talk directly to the person and not to the signer

Signers

1. Signers with darker skin should wear white shirts without designs
2. Signers with lighter skin should wear dark shirts without designs

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