



Noise Can Hinder Learning

In today's wired world, the home is often a very noisy place, with televisions blasting, computers beeping, and cell phones playing their tunes. To ensure that your home is the best learning environment, it's a good idea to reduce the noise level.

Babies listen to all sounds around them instead of focusing on any one sound. Gradually, as children grow up, they learn to focus on important sounds and 'tune out' the background noise, but this process can take many years.

The ability to hear the separate sounds in speech is vital for proper speech development and for learning to read. It is developed in the first years of life. Even if your baby's brain functions in the normal range, he or she will benefit from quiet surroundings. And if your baby has budding learning problems, these problems will be more easily detected in their earliest stages in a quiet environment.

Over the years a number of studies (mostly of children living near airports) have revealed that all children learn to read better in quieter environments.

