

## Printable BHSM Ideas

- ASHA's May is Better Hearing and Speech Month website has a screen saver, activity booklets, bookmarks, information packets, and more! - <http://www.asha.org/bhsm/>
- Super Duper Publications' Celebrate Better Speech and Hearing Month Handy Handout - [http://www.superduperinc.com/handouts/pdf/19\\_Celebrate\\_Better\\_Speech.pdf](http://www.superduperinc.com/handouts/pdf/19_Celebrate_Better_Speech.pdf)
- LiveSpeakLove created free printable information sheets for various communication disorders - <http://livespeaklove.com/2012/05/01/happy-better-hearing-and-speech-month/>
- The American Academy of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery's website full of hearing and speech handouts - <http://www.entnet.org/AboutUs/betterHearingSpeechMonth.cfm>
- Super Duper Publications' Handy Handouts - <http://www.superduperinc.com/Handouts/Handout.aspx>
- American Academy of Audiology Worksheets - <http://www.audiology.org/resources/consumer/Pages/kids.aspx>
- Consonantly Speaking's Coloring Page With Suggested Homework Activities for BHSM - <http://consonantlyspeaking.com/posts/2012/05/better-hearing-and-speech-month-coloring-page-with-suggested-homework-activities>
- Consonantly Speaking's What Does Better Hearing and Speech Mean to You worksheet - <http://consonantlyspeaking.com/posts/2012/05/what-does-better-hearing-and-speech-mean-to-you-worksheet>
- Consonantly Speaking's Auditory Processing Disorders and Classroom Microphone/Speaker System handouts - <http://consonantlyspeaking.com/posts/2012/05/giving-back-to-our-teachers-for-teacher-appreciation-week>
- Consonantly Speaking's Thank You note for BHSM sales, giveaways, and donations - <http://consonantlyspeaking.com/posts/2012/05/making-sure-to-say-thank-you-for-bhsm-app-donations-giveaways-and-sales>

## Better Hearing and Speech Month Advocacy Ideas and Activities

### *Activities to do in Schools*

- **Discuss effective communication with kids.** Ask students what words come to mind when they think of communication. Create a [Wordle](#) and display in the classroom.
- **Be creative.** Give kids an art assignment, such as illustrating why communication is important or what communication means to them, in websites like [ArtPad](#). These can also be posted in the classroom, cafeteria, or a display case in the school. Other ideas include writing a song about communication and holding a communication-themed scavenger hunt. Work with teachers to develop resources and activities that would heighten awareness of communication that they can do in their classrooms.
- **Distribute and display materials.** Send a letter home to parents about recognizing the early signs of communication disorders. This [template](#) [DOC] will give you a place to start. Use the [Identify the Signs posters](#) in the main office, hallway, or other area to draw in students, parents, and teachers/administrators.
- **Educate your colleagues.** Put materials (with goodies) in teacher, administrator, and school counselor mailboxes; arrange to speak at a staff meeting; or organize a staff lunch (order pizza!)

to tell them more about your services. It is often helpful to talk with teachers about voice issues teachers sometimes develop, giving them ideas regarding good vocal hygiene.

- **Partner with the high school career/school counselor.** Spotlight speech-language pathology and audiology as potential career paths. ASHA's "[Reward Yourself](#)" video is a great resource to showcase the benefits of the professions.

### ***Activities to do in Private Practices and Hospitals***

- **Make office visits.** Bring materials about your services, or a candy jar with your business card, to local pediatrician offices or other clinical units to inform/remind them of your services should they see a patient who needs them.
- **Hold an open house.** Invite colleagues in other departments and/or people in the community to an open house. You may choose to give a brief presentation or simply use the time for conversations and distributing information with refreshments.
- **Organize a free hearing screening.** These are often among the most popular BHSM events. You can use the [form](#) [PDF] (do not modify the form by adding your personal information). You can, of course, provide your business card should someone want to follow up. ASHA provides a lot of patient information handouts through its [Audiology Information Series](#) (in English and Spanish) that you can distribute at a hearing screening.
- **Set up an information table outside a hospital/facility cafeteria.** Give away earplugs or another simple giveaway, along with information about communication disorders and your department.
- **Place posters/materials in high-traffic areas.** Inquire about placing materials in the lobby of a facility or other high-traffic area during the month. The [Identify the Signs campaign posters](#) provide an eye-catching visual that can be used to generate attention.