

# parenting

By Julianne Smith

★Ogden, Paul W. & David H. Smith. *The Silent Garden: Raising Your Deaf Child*. 3d ed. Gallaudet Univ. Nov. 2016. 344p. index. ISBN 9781563686764. pap. \$34.95; bk. ISBN 9781563686771. CHILD REARING

In this third edition of this esteemed text, coauthors Ogden (dept. of communicative sciences & disorders, California State Univ., Fresno) and Smith (director, Ctr. on Deafness, Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville) deliver a foundational approach to raising deaf and hard-of-hearing children, emphasizing that “being deaf is not about hearing but about communication.” Starting with a description of diagnosis, they cover the entire span of childhood and young adulthood of individuals affected by hearing loss, guiding parents in finding the right professionals, how and when to begin communicating, which communication languages are available (and their very important differences), available schools (or considerations for mainstreaming), and transitioning to independent life. The advice includes both specific instructions (tap and signal with babies) and developmental overviews (why discussing deafness and “differentness” is important to convey around age four). Especially informative is the thorough coverage of visual languages, such as ASL, and their current controversies and implications. This timely update includes the growing research into surgical procedures, such as cochlear implants, and the many technologies available that support independence. **VERDICT** A required acquisition for all libraries.

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*Julianne Smith received her BA in English and her MS in Information from the University of Michigan. She has been a librarian for over 20 years and an LJ reviewer for nearly ten. She currently serves as Assistant Director, Ypsilanti District Library, MI. Parenting consumes much of her time outside of work, and it's a good thing she writes this column because her twins give her a run for her money on a daily basis*

