**Mayo Clinic Minute**

**Can your child hear the teacher?**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>VIDEO</th>
<th>AUDIO</th>
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<td>You know your child can see the video board, …</td>
<td>… but what if he can’t hear the teacher?</td>
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Dr. Kelly Conroy

“Hearing loss on school performance is quite impactful.”

Audiologist Dr. Kelly Conroy says it’s especially true in kindergarten and elementary school-aged kids.

**Title:**
**Kelly Conroy, Au.D.**
**Audiology**
**Mayo Clinic**

“ … because that’s when they’re really learning a lot of their language and speech skills. They’re also learning to get along socially with other children.”

Dr. Conroy says hearing loss in children can result in a variety of ways, but noise is a big culprit.

Dr. Kelly Conroy

“One of the major issues we’re seeing right now are children that have listened to MP3 players or iPods very loudly for long periods of time.”

Infection or other problems in the middle ear can lead to hearing loss. And hearing problems can run in families.

**Sound of a hearing test**

Dr. Conroy says a hearing check should be a standard part of your student’s back-to-school routine, because earlier detection can lead to earlier intervention.

Dr. Kelly Conroy

“… help them to be as successful as they can in a situation where there is some issues with hearing.”

For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I’m Jeff Olsen.