About Cued Speech

Cue Charts
Cued Speech makes all the phonemes (sound-based units) of speech visible by using eight handshapes in four positions near the mouth in combination with the lipshapes and articulation movements of speech. Read more about Cued Speech charts.

Definition
Cued Speech is a visual communication system that uses eight handshapes in four different placements near the face in combination with the mouth movements of speech to make the sounds of spoken language look different from each other. Read more.

History
Dr. R. Orin Cornett completed the invention of Cued Speech in 1966. Read more.

Info Papers
Fact: Cued Speech does not require the use of speech or voice to communicate clearly, nor was it developed for the purpose of improving a deaf person’s speech skills. While speech therapists and auditory rehabilitation specialists have employed the use of cueing in therapy sessions as a biofeedback tool, it is considered a secondary benefit of the system. In the 1960s, it was believed that phonemes and speech were interrelated and could not be separated, and this is partly why the system was named “Cued Speech.” Read articles and materials that will help break the myth about Cued Speech. Read more.

1. Speech-Language Pathologist Uses Cued Speech for Hearing Children
   Carla Davidson is a speech-language pathologist at Longridge Elementary School in Greece, NY (near Rochester). She uses Cued Speech on a daily basis while providing therapy to children who are not deaf or hard-of-hearing. Carla learned to cue eight years ago and has not stopped since! She became fluent in Cued Speech while working with deaf students in private practice. Read More.

2. Cued Speech and Special Children
   Cued Speech is used with children with and without hearing loss for a variety of purposes, such as accelerating the learning phonics or speech or language instruction. The children may be typical children or have autism, apraxia, cerebral palsy, deaf-blindness, developmental disabilities or other learning needs. Our most special children are those who have one or more additional disabilities with their hearing loss. Read more.

3. Cued Speech and Autism, Pervasive Developmental Disorders
   Cued Speech has been and is being used with children who have autism and other Pervasive Developmental Disorders (PDD), as one part of individualized packages of special services. Read more.

4. Down Syndrome & Cued Speech
   Speech pathologists were the first persons — beginning in the early 1980’s — to begin using Cued Speech with children with Down Syndrome and other developmental disabilities. Parents and educators followed their lead. This author has experience with three children with Down Syndrome, two boys six years old and a girl 4 years old. Each child was unique. Read More.

Languages/Dialects
Cued Speech has been adapted to approximately 60 languages and dialects. Dr. Cornett wrote guidelines for adapting Cued Speech to additional languages. Read more.

Research
Annotated Bibliography of Research Findings Regarding Cued Speech. The Cued Speech Journal pertains broadly to studies of Cued Speech including research, teaching methods, and literature reviews. Read more.

Special Populations
Cued Speech was created originally to enable parents of children who are deaf or hard of hearing to easily make their spoken language clearly visible, so that their children could internalize the appropriate phonemic language base for literacy through exposure.

Speech-language therapists, special educators, reading teachers, linguistics professors and others have expanded the uses of Cued Speech to benefit individuals with a variety of language, speech, communication and learning needs. Read more.

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