



# Washington Statewide Outreach Team



**D/HH EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY (PLC)**

**Wednesday, March 20, 12:00 – 3:00 pm**

## **Working Memory and Language of Children Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing**

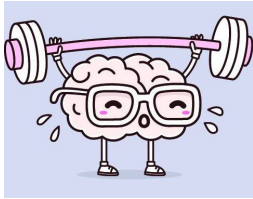
**Presented by Kimberly Peters, Ph.D**

**New Location!** Madison Early Learning Center, 3101 S 43rd St., **Tacoma**, WA 98409

Working memory (WM) can be conceptualized as the “cognitive workspace” (Kaufman, 2014), or the place in the mind where information is held before acting on it, and is employed during activities such as math computation, spelling, writing and revising, planning, and social interaction. Working memory in combination with language skill and background knowledge is especially important for learning how to read and write. Children who are DHH are at higher risk for WM as well as language and background knowledge gaps. This workshop will provide a definition and description of working memory; a overview of the research on WM differences and background knowledge gaps in children who are DHH; specific examples of how auditory WM deficits and background knowledge gaps manifest academically; and suggestions for parents and professionals for creating activities that integrate auditory WM, oral and written language, and background knowledge for school age children who are deaf or hard of hearing.



Kimberly Peters, Ph.D., is a speech-language pathologist, audiologist, and former English teacher. She completed her graduate education and clinical training in communication sciences and disorders at the University of Connecticut. She worked at the New England Center for Hearing Rehabilitation for 9 years as a rehabilitative specialist, consulting with school districts and providing services to infants, children, and adults who are deaf or hard of hearing and their families. In 2002, she joined the faculty of Western Washington University in Bellingham, Washington. Kimberly is a Professor, Chair of the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, and Director of the Aural Rehabilitation and Resonance Clinic at Western. She provides clinical and consultative services, supervises graduate students, teaches courses in pediatric hearing loss and habilitation, and conducts research in language, cognitive development, and social competence in children who are deaf and hard of hearing.



## Agenda:

**12:00 - 1:15**

Working memory (WM) and language among D/HH children - overview of research

**1:15 - 1:30**

Break

**1:30 - 2:45**

Learning activities that integrate auditory WM, oral and written language, and background knowledge for school-age D/HH children

**2:45 - 3:00**

Questions

## Objectives:

Upon the completion of this workshop, the participant will be able to...

- Define "working memory" as it relates to children who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- Describe the ways in which working memory deficits in combination with language and world knowledge gaps might affect learning and academic outcomes for children who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- Describe three games that can address working memory for language to use with children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

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## REGISTRATION

To register please email **Christy Camarata** at [Christy.Camarata@cwu.edu](mailto:Christy.Camarata@cwu.edu) with the following information:

- **Name**
- **Work Title**
- **District/Employer**
- **Are you attending in person or remotely via Zoom?**
- **Do you need an interpreter or any other special accommodations?**

To attend via Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/401987374>

**IMPORTANT remote attendees, please read!** You can attend from a computer or phone using Zoom, an online meeting platform. Please make sure your computer has a webcam and meets the system requirements.

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362023-System-Requirements-for-PC-Mac-and-Linux>

**You are responsible for testing your device prior to the meeting.** <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362283-How-Do-I-Join-or-Test-My-Computer-Device-Audio->