

Quick Facts about Students, Teachers, Classrooms, and Classroom Sound

- Half of all teachers experience voice disorder at some time in their career (University of Iowa National Center for Voice and Speech).
- U.S. schools may lose as much as \$2.5 billion annually in sick leave for teachers with vocal problems (Univ. of Iowa National Center for Vocal and Speech).
- Children spend 45% of the school day engaged in listening activities (Berg, 1987).
- Even in an acoustically 'good' classroom, children 'receive' 83% of a teacher's voice 'signal' when they sit in the front row; 66% in the middle rows and only 55% in the back row (Crandell & Smaldino, 1994).
- The average grade school student misses 25% of what a teacher says (Crandell & Smaldino, 1994).
- On any given day about 43% of primary level children could fail a basic hearing test because of middle-ear infections (Flexer, Wray, & Ireland, 1989).
- Students in classrooms with active learning (sound field) technology show significant improvements in Scholastic Reading Achievement scores (Mainstream Amplification Resource Room Study; Sarff, Ray, & Bagwell, 1981). This improvement was greater than or at least equal to that experienced by students receiving resource room instruction.
- 96% of teachers have noted improvement in student attentiveness, listening, and comprehension after using an active learning system (Rosenberg, 1996).
- Elementary school teachers surveyed have rated active learning systems their most useful teaching technology (Allen, 1993).
- 92% of teachers noted less emotional strain — and as much as 60% fewer sick days from vocal problems — after using an active learning system (Rosenberg, 1996 & Allen, 1996).
- Spelling scores of 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders have improved by 15%, 12%, and 21% respectively after using an active learning system (Zabel & Tabor, 1996).

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