What Is an Audiologist?

Audiology is a highly recognized profession and has been ranked by U.S. News and World Report as one of the Best Health Care Jobs.

- Audiologists: Audiologists are the primary health-care professionals who evaluate, diagnose, treat, and manage hearing loss and balance disorders in adults and children.

- Audiology
  - Evaluate and diagnose hearing loss and vestibular (balance) disorders.
  -Prescribe, fit, and dispense hearing aids and other amplification and hearing assistance technologies.
  -Are members of cochlear implant teams.
  -Perform ear- or hearing-related surgical monitoring.
  -Design and implement hearing conservation programs.
  -Design and implement newborn hearing screening programs.
  -Provide hearing rehabilitation training such as auditory training and listening skills improvement.
  -Assess and treat individuals, especially children, with central auditory processing disorders.
  -Assess and treat individuals with tinnitus. (noise in the ear, such as ringing)
  -Audiologists treat all ages and types of hearing loss: the elderly, adults, teens, children, and infants.
  -Almost all types of hearing loss are treatable by an audiologist.
  -Most hearing loss that is caused by nerve damage can be treated by an audiologist with hearing aids, assistive listening devices, and hearing rehabilitation.
  -Audiologists work in a variety of settings, such as hospitals, clinics, private practice, ENT offices, universities, K-12 schools, government, military, and Veterans’ Administration (VA) hospitals.
  -Most audiologists earn a doctor of audiology (AuD) degree. Some audiologists earn a doctor of philosophy (PhD) or doctor of science (ScD) degree in the hearing and balance sciences.
  -Audiologists must be licensed or registered for practice in all states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Sources:
https://money.usnews.com/careers/best-jobs/audiologist

For more information on audiology and hearing loss, visit www.rhsc.org.
How loud is too loud?

- Normal conversation: 50 dB to 60 dB
- Laughter: 60 dB to 65 dB
- Vacuum cleaner, hair dryer: 70 dB
- Dishwasher: 75 dB
- Washing machine: 78 dB
- Garbage disposal, city traffic noise: 80 dB
- Fireworks: 145 dB
- Jet takeoff, shotgun firing: 130 dB
- Rock concert: 110 dB to 140 dB
- Stereo: 110 dB to 125 dB
- Thunderclap, boom box: 120 dB
- Jackhammer, power saw, symphony orchestra: 105 dB
- Snowmobile: 103 dB
- Jet flyover at 100 ft: 100 dB
- Train, garbage truck: 98 dB
- Farm tractor: 85 dB to 90 dB
- Lawnmower: 85 dB
- Normal breathing: 10 dB
- Rustling leaves, mosquito: 20 dB
- Whisper: 30 dB
- Quiet office: 40 dB

Source: https://www.earq.com/hearing-loss/decibels