

HEARING DISABILITIES – MUFFLED SOUNDS

This activity will help girls to understand the frustration of not hearing clearly.

Ask for one or two volunteers. Have the girls place a cotton ball in the outer part of each ear and tie a scarf around her head to hold the cotton balls in place. As an alternative you can place earphones over her ears.

Continue with the regular activities at the meeting.

Do nothing special for the girl. Repeat when she asks you to.

1. Ask the girls to share how it felt to have their hearing impaired.
2. What were their feelings toward the leader? The other girls?
3. How do people feel who have hearing loss?
4. Develop some helpful hints for working with someone with a hearing loss.



HEARING DISABILITIES – COMMUNICATING

There are two parts to sounds: loudness and pitch. Loudness ranges from soft to loud. Pitch ranges from high tones to low tones. Both loudness and pitch together produce the sounds we hear. Persons with hearing disabilities usually experience a loss in certain tones or pitches as well as loss in volume of loudness. Hearing disabilities can range from mild to profound and can produce difficulties in communicating with others. Try this activity to simulate communicating with someone who cannot hear and understand speech.

Divide the girls into pairs. Give one girl in each pair a message to communicate to her partner without talking.

Please get me a drink of water.

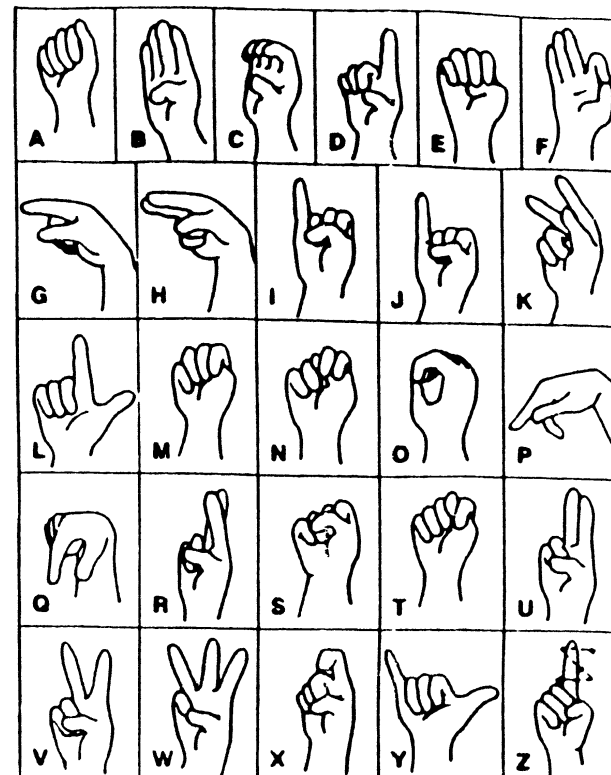
Please get me three books to read.

It's your turn to write on the blackboard.

I have three cats at home.

Discuss:

1. How did they communicate using eye contact, gestures, pointing to objects, writing, etc.?
2. How did it feel to communicate silently?
3. What are some things to remember when communicating with someone with a hearing disability?



HEARING
DISABILITIES
SIGN LANGUAGE
ALPHABET

Learn to fingerspell

Try fingerspelling
your name
Then try 'hello' and
'thank you'

For more
information on sign
language, refer to the
Disability
Awareness program
kit in the Girl Scout
Resource Center.