



Hillside UDA - Understanding Our Different Abilities

2nd Grade Program

It is the mission of UDA to promote understanding, empathy, acceptance, and respect for all people regardless of differing abilities. Through the use of multisensory activities, speakers, and discussion, elementary students at each grade level, are introduced to a broad range of abilities, both visible and invisible, to reinforce that we are all different. Understanding and accepting those differences creates a stronger community.

In 1st grade, we addressed blindness and visual impairments.

Today in your child's class a group of parent volunteers presented a program which introduced concepts related to deafness and hearing impairments. To find out more about your child's experience today, you may want to ask him or her these questions:

Are there different levels of deafness and hearing impairments?

Tell me some ways in which we have the same and different experiences as someone who is deaf?

How might you communicate with someone who is deaf?

Sign language videos we watched: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xJNQmamGSb4>,
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_f1My_8OFE, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0LIV0miyxR8>

Can someone who's is deaf or hearing impaired enjoy music and play a musical instrument?
How do they hear the music? (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZKSWXzAnVe0>)

Can you show me the Elephant game? (www.youtube.com/watch?v=slkpc88tpis)

Is it easy to lipread? What might make it more difficult?

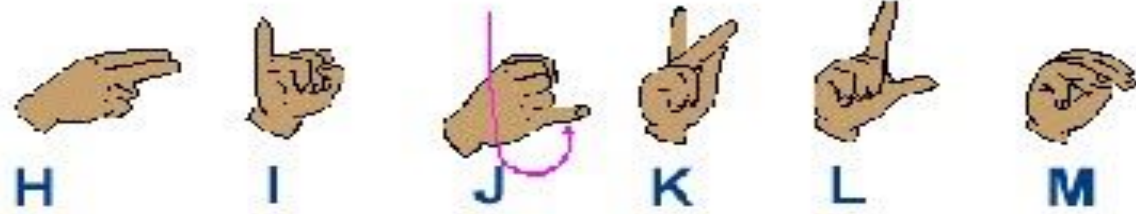
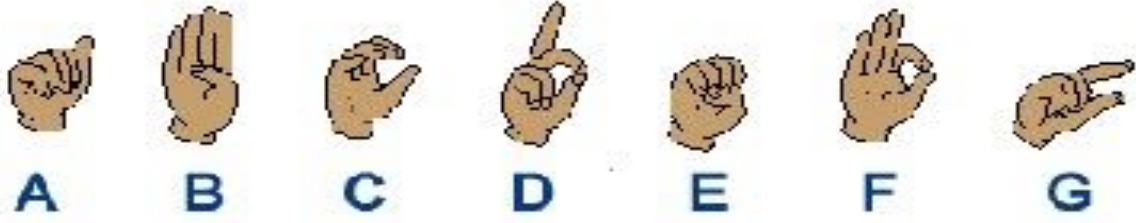
Who is William Hoy?

We encouraged the children to consider the following factors:

- We are all people first; we are all similar in many ways and different in many ways. We are all multi-dimensional individuals.
- Instead of thinking about people having DIS-abilities, we like to think of them of as being differently-abled. It is important to try hard not to define or judge people by a particular disability.
- Most people who are deaf/hearing impaired are able to do many of the things that someone who does not have a hearing impairment can do by relying on other senses and/or with the use of adaptive aids.
- Hearing impairments affect the lives of many people to varying degrees.
- It is very natural to feel curious about the experiences of someone who has a different experience than we do. It is important to ask our questions respectfully.

For more information about the UDA program and the activities in your child's classroom, contact Vanessa Jones (vanessajones694@hotmail.co.uk) or Erin Travia (erinkellytravia@gmail.com).

American Sign Language Alphabet



American Sign Language - Numbers from 1 – 10

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1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



10