



Silent Lotus



Lotus, a young Cambodian girl who cannot hear or speak, is invited to become a dancer in the king's court. LeVar takes the opportunity to explore the vast and expressive world of non-verbal communication by watching mimes and talking with people who communicate using sign language. He also learns how deafness impacts people's lives.

Here are several activities you and your child can do together after watching this episode.

Bent Out of Shape

Mimes aren't the only ones who can bend their bodies in all sorts of positions. Your children can make miniature bendable characters of their own.

You will need: pipe cleaners, heavy paper (such as index cards), tape, scissors

For each character:

1. Cut any shape (circle, square, rectangle, or triangle) from an index card. This will be the torso for the character.
2. Tape a pipe cleaner to each side of the shape and two to the bottom. The pipe cleaners will be the arms and legs for the character.
3. Cut out four smaller shapes to tape to each end of the pipe cleaners. These will be the hands and feet for the character.
4. Hair, eyes, nose, and mouth can be drawn on the center shape.
5. Have fun bending the pipe cleaners to pose each irresistible character.

Say It with Signs

Does your family know a hearing-impaired person? If so, then they have seen them use gestures and facial expressions to communicate words and ideas. Sign Language has a manual alphabet for spelling our words, but there are also simple signs that represent whole words. Teach your children some of these signs, shown at right:

Hello Around the World

It would be fun to be able to say "Hello" to friends who live in different parts of the world. Parents, just for fun, teach your children some of these greetings:

Aloha (ah-LO-ha) Hawaiian
Shalom (shah-LOME) Hebrew
Konnichiwa (ko-NEE-chee-WAH) Japanese
Wei (way) Chinese
Bonjour (bon-ZHOOR) French
Jambo (JAHM-bo) Swahili
Hola (OH-la) Spanish
Privet (preev-YET) Russian
Guten Tag (GU-ten TAGH) German
Sabaidi (sub-EYE-dee) Laotian



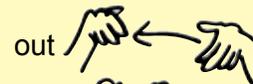
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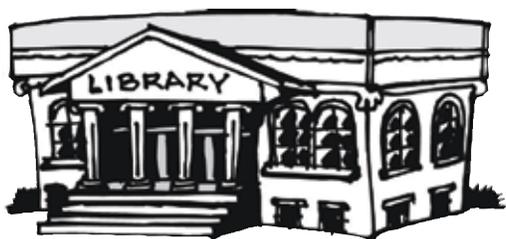
scissors



out



love



Episode 95

Visit Your Community Library

Here are some books you can check out on your next trip to the library

- ◆ **The Handmade Alphabet** by Laura Rankin
- ◆ **Hand Rhymes** collected by Marc Brown
- ◆ **Amy: The Story Of A Deaf Child** by Lou Ann Walker