

## **ACTIVITY #3**

### **SIGNING: A DIFFERENT WAY OF TALKING**

#### **Materials Needed:**

- "It's Hard Not To Stare"
- Sign language dictionary
- Book told with sign language
- Chart paper and marker

#### **Instructions:**

- Read "It's Hard Not to Stare" out loud
- Tell the students that you are going to read the story again.
- Turn the pages one by one but just mouth the words...don't say them out loud
  - Exaggerate your facial expressions
  - Point to pictures
- End the book by reading the last page out loud.

#### **Discussion Starters:**

- "Were you able to follow the story? Why or why not?"
- "Was it awkward to have silence while I read?"
- "If you didn't know the story, how would you know what it said?"
- "Brainstorm all of the sounds that you hear in a day."
- "What do you think it would be like not to be able to hear?"
- "What sounds would you miss the most?"
- "Are there any sounds that you would not miss?"
- "How do some people who are deaf talk to each other?"
  - ask students what signs they know
  - teach students 3-4 signs
  - show them sign language dictionary or sign language chart
  - practice signs

#### **Conclusion:**

- Turn to page 13.
- "What do you think these guys are saying to each other?"
- "What could you say to them?"

#### **Additional Related Activities:**

- Bring an additional book in that students would not have read.
- Read it to them without saying the words aloud, perhaps mouthing the words or using sign language. Discuss how they managed to follow the story.
- What did they miss not hearing it read aloud? Did they misunderstand anything?
- Bring a hearing aid and discuss how the hearing aid works. Discuss what kinds of things a student may not be able to do with a hearing aid. i.e. swim