

## **Interview an Expert with a Deafness or Hard of Hearing**

Thank you for talking to me. I am learning about Deafness and Hard of Hearing through the Understanding Our Differences program at school. I'd like to ask you a few questions so I can understand your experiences.

1. How and when did your deafness or hard of hearing start? Was it something you had from when you were born, from an illness or getting older, or from an injury?
2. Do you use any special techniques, strategies or technology to help you communicate and to accomplish things you want to do? Please describe those to me and give me an example or two of what you use and how it helps.
3. Have you ever had someone treat you differently because you have deafness or hard of hearing? How do you want people to treat you? What is your favorite way for people to offer help?
4. What kinds of hobbies do you have? Do you have a pet, either now or earlier? What activities do you enjoy?

Thank you very much for speaking with me today. I've learned that it's important to understand people's experiences with disabilities, and also to understand what people have in common. (Tell the person if you too like one of their hobbies or interests.)