

# Vetting Deaf Representational Literature

We are seeing more books that include Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hard of Hearing characters. That's awesome! How can we tell if they are providing a productive perspective on deafness?

Here are some questions to keep in mind:



## Authorship

- Does the author have a connection to the Deaf community? ✓
- Are they part of the community themselves? ✓
- Did they work with members of the community during the writing process? ✓

## Community

- Do the characters have access to other Deaf peers? ✓
- Do they have access to Deaf adults? ✓
- Are the characters getting supports when they need them? ✓



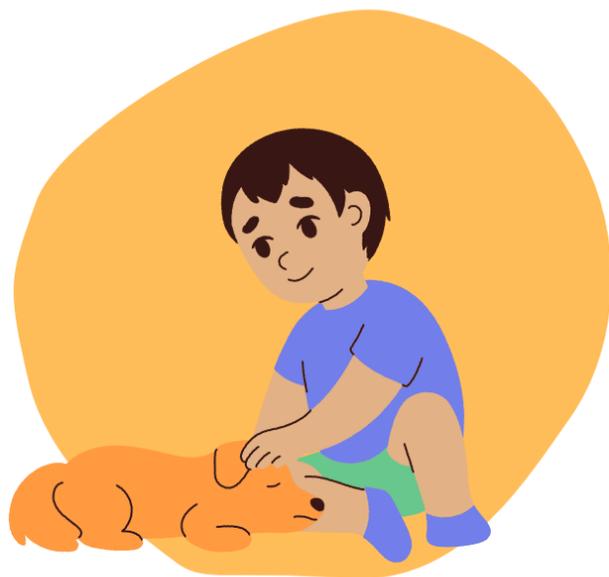
## Deaf Experience

- Is the character fully developed with deafness as part of their life? ✓
- Does their storyline include deafness without reducing the character to that one element? ✓
- Is this accurate to Deaf lived experience? ✓



## Fixing Deafness

- Is deafness addressed without implying that it is something broken that needs to be fixed? ✓
- Is it part of natural human diversity? ✓
- Is deafness celebrated for its language, culture, and community? ✓



## Diversity

- Are there different ways to be Deaf? ✓
- Are Deaf folks shown using a variety of hearing technology, language modalities, and communication methods? ✓
- Is there diversity of Deaf individuals and intersecting identities? ✓