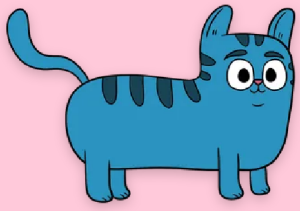
AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE · DEAF HISTORY · GRADES 3–5

Meet Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet and Alice Cogswell

Read about a hearing minister, a Deaf girl named Alice and the school they helped start, then answer the questions.



Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Read

Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet was a hearing minister in Hartford, Connecticut. His neighbors had a daughter named Alice Cogswell. Alice was deaf, and at that time there was no school in the United States where she could learn.

Gallaudet saw that Alice was bright and eager to learn. A famous story says he taught her her first word, hat, by pointing to his hat and writing the letters in the dirt.

Alice's father, Dr. Mason Cogswell, and other families raised money to send Gallaudet to Europe in 1815 to learn how deaf children were taught. There he met Laurent Clerc, a Deaf teacher at the school for the deaf in Paris, and brought him back to America.

In 1817 they opened the school now called the American School for the Deaf, and Alice was one of its first students. In 1864 a college for deaf students was started in Washington, D.C. Today it is Gallaudet University, named for Thomas, and his son Edward was its first leader.

Answer the questions.

Who was Alice Cogswell?

_____

Why did Gallaudet go to Europe?

_____

Whom did he bring back to America?

_____

What school did they open in 1817?

_____

What university is named for Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet?

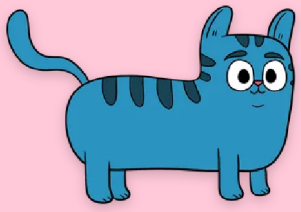
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ANSWER KEY · DEAF HISTORY · GRADES 3–5

Answer Key: Meet Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet and Alice Cogswell

Answers for grown-ups. Where kids write their own ideas, the key shows one example.



Read

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Answer the questions.

Who was Alice Cogswell?

Gallaudet's deaf neighbor

Why did Gallaudet go to Europe?

To learn how deaf children were taught

Whom did he bring back to America?

Laurent Clerc

What school did they open in 1817?

The American School for the Deaf

What university is named for Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet?

Gallaudet University

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