

Elaine Gale PhD¹, Lucile Gale MA², Patrice Creamer MSW¹, Suzy Best BA³, & Zivia Gale⁴

¹Hunter College, New York, NY; ²Rocky Mountain Deaf School, Denver, CO;

³Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and Blind, Tucson, AZ; ⁴Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY

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INTRODUCTION

It is important for professionals, families, and students to have access to children's books with deaf characters that celebrate being deaf. However, investigating how children's books portray deaf characters, studies show that deaf characters are often portrayed as a disability that needs to be fixed (Bailes, 2002; Golos et al., 2012). Deaf Gain, which means vital contributions deaf people make to the greater good of society (Bauman & Murray, 2010), in children's books is a way for current and future teachers to create a positive learning environment to elevate, empower, engage and celebrate deaf students.

DEAF GAIN EXAMPLES



EARLY LANGUAGE

SIGN LANGUAGE

EYE CONTACT

CONVERSATION CIRCLES

CLOSED CAPTIONS

FOOTBALL HUDDLE

BASEBALL HAND SIGNALS



7 WAYS TO INCORPORATE DEAF GAIN INTO YOUR LIFE



ELEVATE, EMPOWER AND ENGAGE: ASL/ENGLISH STORYBOOK APP

Storybook Apps, developed by Melissa Malzkuhn, are based on language learning and bilingualism research along with principles of literacy development (Herzig & Malzkuhn, 2015). The app provides three ways to engage with the content:

WATCH MODE

ASL narrative & visuals



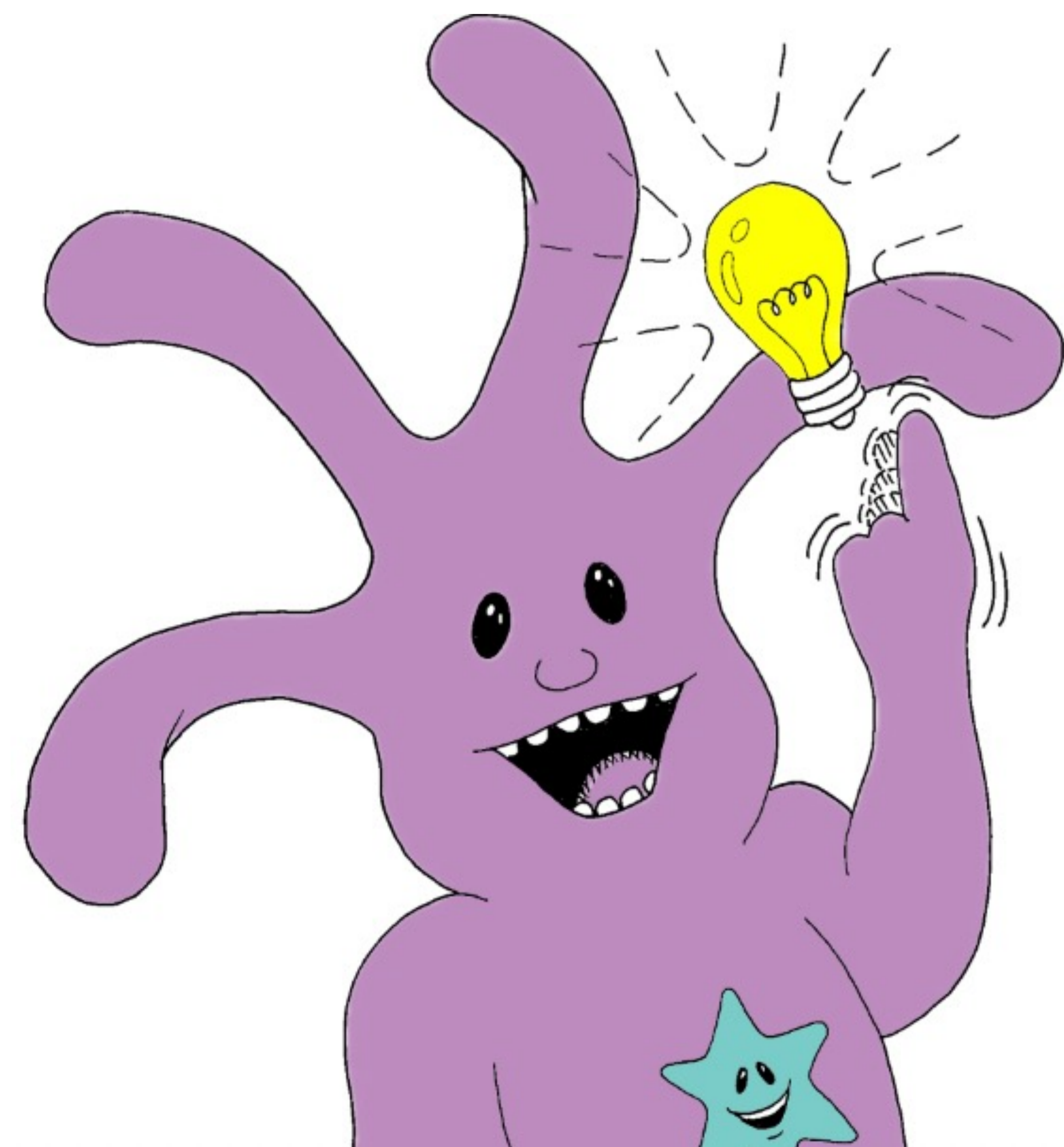
READ MODE

English text & visuals



LEARN MODE

Glossary of vocabulary



Storybook app *Deaf Gain What* is a story about a family attending their first Deaf Expo with their Deaf role model. Join them to learn about Deaf Gain.

REFERENCES

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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