

Boy

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The king's battles with the dragon were always mighty and loud... CLING CLANG CLONG! ROAR! Boy lived in a silent world and couldn't hear the fighting. But Boy could see the fear around him... and how everyone would be much happier without it.

**Themes:**

- Being deaf
- Dragons
- Kings and rulers
- Communication
- Conflict resolution

Discussion Questions:

- Before reading the story ask students to look at the cover. Is there any indication what this story is about or where it might be set? Once you have read it, discuss how close (or otherwise) your original thoughts were to the actual story?
- Boy spoke with 'dancing hands'. Do you know what this is called? As a class, research the different types of sign language that exist all over the world. What is the name of the language that is used in Australia? Do you know any sign language?
- Why were the King and his knights fighting the dragon?
- How did Boy know that his parents didn't like the fighting that was going on around them?
- Why did Boy run into the middle of the battle? What characteristics did this show?
- Have you ever had a misunderstanding with someone? If so, what was it about and how was it resolved?
- What does this story teach us about communication, in all forms?
- How did Boy's actions change how the people in the village treated him?
- Do you think the villagers will be more understanding of him now? Discuss.
- What do the endpapers of this book show? Closely compare the front and back. How are they different? If you hadn't read the story, do you think you could get a 'feel' for the story and guess what it is about just by looking at the endpapers? Discuss this as a class.

Activities:

- Make your own mythical dragon. Use a variety of materials and display these in your class.
- Imagine you are a King or a Queen. Design and paint or draw your own castle. Choose colours and styles that represent you and the things that you like.