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Junior Division

Individual website

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The Institut National de Jeunes Sourds de Paris or the National Institute for Deaf Youth of Paris was founded in seventeen sixty by Abbe de L'Epee ("Charles Michel de L'Epee"). The school was revolutionary because, after it opened, people's views started to change about deaf people ("Charles Michel de L'Epee"). The reaction was that a few years after the opening of the school deaf people were given rights they never had before ("Charles"). The Institute reformed communication for deaf individuals with the creation of sign language ("Charles"). Deaf people's lives were impacted by the school because it made their lives easier and it grew more deaf awareness. The school influenced the world in many ways and allowed deaf people from all around the world to use the sign language that the National Institute for Deaf Youth of Paris created ("Charles Michel de L'Epee"). The National Institute for Deaf Youth of Paris played an important role in helping to create a means for deaf people to communicate with the hearing world ("Charles"). I chose this topic because my cousin was non verbal and deaf. I wanted to learn the back story of why sign language was created and what people over time thought of it. The back story of him meeting two girls being the origin of why he created sign language was interesting to me because he made it so the girls could communicate and go to heaven.

When I was choosing websites for my topic I chose websites that stated clear information about the origin of the school relating to sign language. Though the school itself was my main topic I also wanted to include how the school introduced the world to sign language and the big impact it had on the world. For primary sources the founder named Abbe de L'Epee wrote a book about his experiences teaching deaf children which helped to get more inside information on the school and compare them to other opinions. Another primary source that was very useful was an exchange of letters and speeches that were made by a former student of the school that Abbe de L'Epee created the basis for which showed him trying to persuade people

in America to raise more awareness for deaf people. For finding my sources I focused on finding which sources gave the most information with the least amount of words.

For my website I wanted to have images that showed the differences and similarities between classrooms over time and in different places. Because I wanted to add pictures that related to what I was talking about in my passages I either put the picture to one side of the webpage or I made the image the first thing people saw when they first clicked on the webpage. For the layout I wanted to keep the font and main layout similar to the other webpages but I also wanted each page to stand out in a different way.

Annotated Bibliography

Primary:

Abbe de L'Epepe. "The True Method of Educating the Deaf and Dumb; Confirmed by Long Experience." *American Annals of the Deaf and Dumb*, vol.12, no.1, 1860, pp. 1- 6. *Jstor*, <http://www.jstor.org/stable/45220682>. Accessed 20 Nov. 2025.

(Abbe de L'Epee)

This source was used in the background and impact webpages. The information from the source was used to talk from the author's perspective about why he opened the school. With this information it helped point out why the school was revolutionary.

"Clerc Writings." *SocieteLaurentClerc*, <https://www.laurentclerc.org/general-8-5> . Accessed 6 Oct. 2025.

In Text Citation:(Clerc)

This source was used multiple times throughout my background webpage. The source helped to speak from a first person account of what was happening at the time and how it related to the National Institute for deaf Youth in Paris.

“Old picture of the inside court yard of the National Institut de Jeunes Sourds de Paris”

Bridgeman Images

<<https://www.bridgemanimages.com/en-US/french-photographer-19th-century/institut-national-des-jeunes-sourds-paris-1880-b-w-photo/black-and-white-photograph/asset/2601735> > Accessed 8 Jan. 2026.

This photo was used in my impact web page showing the inside court area of what the school would have looked like despite being for the public. It showed how well and secluded the school was and how much the government supported the school using its funds and the founder.

“Old Photo of the outside of the school” Institut National de Jeunes Sourds / National Institute for Deaf Children Historical Marker. <https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=230186> .

Accessed 8 Jan. 2026.

Citation: “Old photo of the outside of the school” The Historical Marker Database

The picture at the bottom of this source was used in my history day theme webpage and it was used because it represented the theme well showing the new awareness and reaction people began to have.

"Young girls practicing using vibrations to learn words in the first deaf school for deaf in Belgium" Deaf History- Europe “ Belgium

,<https://www.deafhistory.eu/index.php/component/zoo/tag/deaf-history/Belgium> . Accessed 8 Jan. 2026.

This source was used in the thesis webpage showing how many lives around the world the school changed from all ages beginning from young ages like any other student their age would. This also helped to show how each student was able to try different versions of communication and pronunciation to improve their speech even at their young age.

Charles Michel de L'Épée. "Google rend hommage à Charles-Michel de L'Épée, Bienfaiteurs Des Enfants Sourds." *RTL*, 24 Nov. 2018, <https://www.rtl.fr/actu/debats-societe/google-rend-hommage-a-charles-michel-de-l-epée-bienfaiteurs-des-enfants-sourds->

In Text Citation: "Charles Michel de L'Épée" *RTL*

This picture was of the founder of the school who is also known as the father of sign language because he helped so many students who were deaf be able to communicate.

Secondary:

"Charles." *NDEA*, <https://www.nationaldeaffreedomassociation.org/charles> . Accessed 2 Oct. 2025.

("Charles")

This source was used mostly in the NHD theme reaction webpage but it was also used more throughout the other webpages. In the source there was information about what came after the school opened and it gave examples of events that came after.

"Charles Michel de l'Épée." *Encyclopedia.Com*, <https://www.encyclopedia.com/history/encyclopedias-almanacs-transcripts-and-maps/charles-michel-de-l-epée> . Accessed 6 Oct. 2025.

This source was used in the website multiple times throughout most of the webpages. It gave information about the founders reasoning for teaching deaf children.

Encyclopedia of Indianapolis. "Indiana School for the Deaf." *Encyclopedia of Indianapolis*, 27 Mar. 2021, <https://indyencyclopedia.org/indiana-school-for-the-deaf/> . Accessed 7 Jan. 2026 ("Encyclopedia of Indianapolis")

This website was used in my influence web page and this was used to connect the deaf history of Indiana to the overall origin of sign language and deaf schools for the more general public. This helped to show the influence the school had on the world and how it spread to even different parts of America.

Andreassend, Monique. "Sign Language Alphabets From Around The World." *AI-Media*, 25 <https://www.ai-media.tv/knowledge-hub/insights/sign-language-alphabets/>

This picture was used on my Influence web page to show how the deaf awareness from that time had grown even to Indiana over hundreds of years showing its influence around the world that the school had on different classrooms around the world even to this day.

History and Cogswell Heritage House, "American School for the Deaf." <https://www.asd-1817.org/about/history--cogswell-heritage-house> Accessed 13 Jan. 2026.

This website was used in the timeline webpage to talk about the more specific dates for the events that didn't directly happen right after the opening of the school. With this website there was more information about the effect of the school and sign language back then that the

American people at that time hadn't seen before.

Laurent Clerc jahan. *Cartel_historique-Version_anglaise_1* . Accessed 13 Jan. 2026.

This website was used in my timeline webpage and it helped to give an overall baseline of what was happening to the original two schools that Abbe de L'Epee and Abbe Sicard had originally created. This website used specific dates and it showed what was happening to the school and what changes the school had gone through including its change of location and directors throughout its early years

“Desegregated Schools: Deaf Students of Color Make the Best of Their New Surroundings - Awareness, Access and Change.” *Gallaudet University*,

<https://gallaudet.edu/museum/exhibits/history-through-deaf-eyes/awareness-access-and-change/desegregated-schools-deaf-students-of-color-make-the-best-of-their-new-surroundings/>

.Accessed 8 Jan. 2026.

This source was used on the home page of the website and it was used to show what an in-class experience was for students in the past. In the classroom the students were using a newer version of the sign language that the founding staff of the National Intitution for deaf youth in Paris had created.