The Liverpool Signing Choir



The members of the Liverpool Signing Choir don't sing – they 'sign'! They are a special choir because many of its members are deaf. They can't hear, so they can't use their voices. But they can use their hands, so they sing with sign language.

Conductor Catherine Hegarty formed this choir at a primary school in Liverpool in 2001. When she started it, it had 12 members. It was an after-school club. Today, there are about 100 young people in the choir. They are aged 7–24.

Some years ago, The Liverpool Signing Choir performed for the Queen when she visited Liverpool. In 2009, they went to London and performed at Wembley Stadium. In 2012, when millions of people listened to them at the Olympic Games, they became famous.

The Liverpool Signing Choir didn't invent a new kind of music but they invented a new way of singing. Remember them when something seems impossible. Everything is possible if you really want to do it!

REMEMBER:

To **SIGN** is to make a gesture to give information.

DEAF people can't hear.

- Read the text and complete the following activities

1) Complete the sentences with the correct words

a. The Liverpool Signing Choir is special because some of its members _____

b. These members sing _____

c. _____ formed this choir at a _____

d. The choir became famous when _____

e. The members of this choir invented _____

with sign language

they sang at the Olympic

are deaf

A new way of singing

Catherine Hegarty

primary school

2) Find these numbers in the text. Then match them with the information they refer to.

1. 2001	a. The choir members' ages
2. 12	b. The year when they became famous
3. 100	c. The number of members today
4. 7-24	d. The year when the choir started
5. 2009	e. The number of members when the choir started
6. 2012	f. The year when they were at Wembley