



FlashAcademy®

QUEEN ALEXANDRA

Citizenship + History

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Princess Alexandra was born in Denmark in 1844. As a child, she was sometimes read **bedtime stories** by Danish author Hans Christian Andersen. Hans Christian Andersen is known for writing 'The Ugly Duckling' and 'The Little Mermaid'. At the age of just 16, she married Prince Edward. Prince Edward was the **eldest** son of Queen Victoria. During her teens, Princess Alexandra started losing her hearing. She used **fingerspelling** to communicate with people, including her **mother-in-law**, Queen Victoria. When Princess Alexandra was **expecting** her third child, she developed an illness which left her with a **limp**. She was loved for her kindness as Princess of Wales and seen as a **fashion icon**. For example, ladies would have their shoes at different heights so they also needed to use a walking stick. When Queen Victoria died in 1901, Alexandra's husband became King Edward VII and she became Queen Alexandra.



Match the words with a synonym:

bedtime stories	•	someone that people look to for fashion inspiration
eldest	•	to walk slowly and with difficulty
fingerspelling	•	the mother of your husband or wife
mother-in-law	•	representing the letters of an alphabet with your hands
expecting	•	stories told before bed, often to help a child get to sleep
limp	•	oldest
fashion icon	•	pregnant

Read the text again and answer the questions:

- 1 Where was Princess Alexandra born?
- 2 Which two books written by Hans Christian Andersen does the text mention?
- 3 Who was Princess Alexandra married to?
- 4 Why did Princess Alexandra communicate using fingerspelling?
- 5 How did Princess Alexandra influence fashion at the time?



Discuss with a friend, teacher, or your class

What challenges would Alexandra have experienced by being a deaf member of the royal family?

Do you have an icon or role model? How have they influenced you?



Challenge!

Practise 'Queen' in BSL (see below)

