

Molly Sanchez



Family



### Physical Description: Molly Sanchez

Molly is seven and three quarters. Her mother is Puerto Rican and her father is Spanish. So, her skin is a creamy coffee color.

Her hair is black, like a total eclipse. Molly usually wears her hair in pigtails mostly with big red bows at the ends and usually she parts her hair in the middle. That doesn't mean that her hair is always neat. There is always some hair out of place and some that doesn't even cooperate. Molly's hair is wavy and when she wears it down the hair lands on her shoulders with curls that look like waves crashing onto the beach.

Molly's eyes are her mother's favorite part of her. They are chocolate brown and look almost like a Hershey's chocolate special dark candy bar. Her mom says Molly's eyes have the effect of a ray of light landing softly on a dark, peaceful lake.

Her ears are acceptable by her, except for the hearing aids that stick out from behind her ears. Luckily the hearing aids are pink with red and blue hearts on it, so they aren't that bad.

Molly's lips are a light salmon color that are not too big for her petite face.

Her body is small like most little kids' bodies are like. Molly is three feet nine inches.

Molly doesn't usually wear jewelry, though sometimes she wears her noodle necklace of all different colors.

For clothes Molly wears lots of different things usually dresses, skirts, tops and fancy shoes are mostly found on her. And for designs it's mostly hearts, stars, flowers, or just a solid color. The colors are usually pink, blue, red and purple.

## Hearing Status and Deaf Identity

Molly had meningitis when she was three. As a result of that sickness she is totally deaf. The type of hearing loss Molly has is a sensori neural loss.

Molly does have a hearing aid. It only really helps Molly hear honks, traffic, and other loud noises like that, noises that might keep her safer if she can hear them. The hearing aids do help Molly be safer, but that doesn't always mean that she always loves her hearing aids. The first few weeks that Molly got them she did everything to hide them because they were so uncomfortable and nobody else she knew had them. For a little girl she was pretty smart. One time she put her hearing aids way down in the bottom of the trash can and another time she hid them in the sandbox.

For communication, Molly signs very little and usually uses speech as her total communication. But when Molly does sign it's usually Signed English that she learned from her friends.

Speaking is very easy for Molly since she became deaf only when she was three. It is also very easy for people to understand her when she is talking.

Molly went to the Lexington School for the Deaf in Jackson Heights, New York. It is an oral school with some sign, mostly Signed English. Molly's parents had Molly go to Lexington School right after she turned deaf. She went there for a year and then changed to a mainstream school. And that's where she is now.

When Molly was at Lexington, she had a lot of fun, but it was too easy for her. But when she changed to the school in Molly's home town the challenge was greater there than at Lexington. Molly likes the challenge, but at Lexington the kids understood her. They experienced what she did, and knew when she was unhappy and when she wasn't.

Since Molly is young she has lots of friends, boys and girls. Her friends though are mostly all hearing except for a couple of deaf kids that Molly still has kept in touch with from the Lexington School for the Deaf. One time in Molly's preschool class, they had a deaf woman visit their classroom.

Molly is a lot more involved in the hearing culture than in deaf. But since she has been deaf for one and one half years now Molly is learning more about deaf culture and enjoying it more and more.

The first three to four months after turning deaf Molly hated it and was embarrassed about it. She felt uncomfortable about being with her friends and family. But from then till now Molly has really changed. She has figured out how to face her friends and family and not to be embarrassed about being different. From the first moment that Molly came into the Lexington School

for the Deaf it really helped. Being with kids her own age and who had the same problem was great for her. Plus, the teachers who helped Molly feel that she was wonderful the way she was helped her to be proud about being deaf. Her family and friends know, love and understand her.



### Personality Description:Molly Sanchez

If you were walking down the street and suddenly bumped into her you would meet a sweet and joyous little girl that's a big chatterbox. And, of course the first sentence you would probably be listening to was guess how old I am?, I am seven and three quarters now!

At home she is totally different. In the morning she is a very cheerful early bird. In other words she gets up at about 6:00 with no sign of grumpiness at all. The great thing about that is she is easy to wake up and doesn't hardly ever complain. The bad thing is she is interested in everything that's going on around, so it takes about 45 minutes for Molly to eat her breakfast. Then after a long breakfast and a bit of nagging from her parents Molly gets on the bus to go to her school.

For Molly, second grade is very tiresome and she has a tendency to get very very wild when she gets home from school. So usually dinnertime and after dinner is usually very chaotic for the family.

Molly always has a very high energy level throughout the day. Usually the only season that Molly slows down is summer except for when she is swimming. The reason Molly isn't very wild in the summer is because the heat affects her a lot. When she is swimming it's a whole different story! Molly's favorite day of the week is Thursday and her favorite day of the weekend is Saturday because she has gymnastics and it lets her use her energy in a good way.

Like most relationships with parents it varies from time to time. But, from the time when Molly started going to the Lexington School for the Deaf until when she stopped she was not very close to her parents even though she was pretty young. Then as Molly changed to the school in her hometown she became more attached to her parents because now she was having more fun and there is more of a challenge and her parents are having a lot more fun too!

Molly's favorite grown-up friend is her great aunt Molly Sanchez. The friendship started when Molly had to do a school project which was a family tree. She did the family tree at the Lexington School to find out more about her family history and who is deaf in her family history. So, when Molly found out that she had a great aunt that is deaf and has the same name as her, they met and became fast friends. Because of that, now Molly can share all her feelings with her great aunt that her parents and teachers wouldn't understand.

Molly's attitude about life always changes. If she is happy and just did something good, life is great, but if someone just disobeyed her rules and got crossed out of her book, the world is Molly's pure enemy.

The one hard thing to swallow about Molly is that there are about 2 times when Molly is not loud and wild. The first one is when she is sleeping the second one is when she meets a girl or boy her own age or near it. Molly always immediately turns into a quiet and withdrawn little girl. So when the kids

and their parents meet Molly thats what they think but boy are they wrong!!!



## Family Description:Molly Sanchez

Molly Sanchez is part Puerto Rican and part Spanish. She got the Puerto Rican side from her mother and the Spanish side from her father. The one neat fact about Molly's history is that way back her ancestors from long ago were Taino Indians so Molly has a tinge of Taino in her.

Molly's father's name is Carlos. He is a big man who is built like an ox but very jolly and optimistic. Carlos has a bushy beard and a shaggy moustach. He has dark brown curly hair. Also Carlos almost always smells like fresh cut wood because he works at a lumber yard.

Molly's mom is the total opposite of her father even though she and Carlos get along almost perfectly. Her name is Maria. Maria is slim and tall with dark brown hair that hits her shoulders. Maria works at the New Rochelle Public Library as a librarian regularly.

Molly and her dad have a very special relationship. Since Carlos only works half a day he gets a smaller salary than Maria but it frees him more so he can spend more time with Molly. Also when Molly's dad was in college he had a friend that was deaf and so Carlos took a class on how to treat deaf people and communicate with them. So Carlos learned a lot and now he and Molly have their own little secret. But that doesn't mean that Molly and Carlos spend more time with each other than Molly and Maria do! Because, usually mother daughter things are a lot different. They go to plays together, concerts and trips. But Molly's favorite is time with her whole family together. Even though Carlos already knows a lot about the deaf, Maria is still catching on. In Molly's world Maria doesn't have to learn more to earn a place in Molly's heart.

Roberto, Molly's older brother, is tall, strong looking and great sports material. Roberto is Molly's favorite sibling. At first, Roberto was ashamed of Molly and embarrassed to talk to his friends when Molly became deaf. Now he has grown accustomed to the changes in Molly and has started to treat her like an ordinary seven-year-old kid who's got a lot of energy!

Marlena, Molly's little sister, is quiet and very reserved. She has wavy, brown hair that goes halfway down her back. Marlena isn't Molly's favorite sibling because Marlena was too young to understand why all of a sudden Molly wouldn't get better and wasn't the same any more. Marlena feels bad that Molly isn't like everybody else. Sometimes that makes Molly feel really angry.

Molly has learned from her parents and her teachers that she is fine the way she is. But she still has a hard time sometimes coping with everything else.

## School Description:Molly Sanchez

You could say that school for Molly is like a seesaw. Sometimes she is way up at the top and having a ball, and other days she is way down to the ground and feels like she can almost smell the dirt. Other days she is right smack in the middle. Usually that's what happens with a lot of kids. But for Molly it's even harder. After two years in a Deaf school, she is now mainstreamed in a public school right near her home.

There are some good things and some hard things about this change. Molly' parents thought there was not enough of a challenge for her academically in the Deaf school, so now she is in a school that offers her more of a challenge. But because she is the only deaf child in the entire school, it makes it hard for her to make friends, fit in and just have a good time.

Molly's school is one of those schools that is very old but still has a lot of spunk to it. It has stained glass windows, big steps and those high windows that you can never reach up to see out of. The one nice thing about her school is, even though it is a public school, there is not a huge population of kids, so everyone gets a lot of attention.

Usually Molly's day starts out where she takes the bus from her house to school. When the kids get there, everyone has to stay outside until the bell rings. Even though Molly can't hear the bell, she can always tell when it's time to go in because all the kids run to the door to go in. Then all the kids come in and hurry to their classrooms.

Molly is in a second grade class with 18 other kids and 1 teacher. Since her teacher is usually focusing on the other kids, Molly has an aide with her almost all day. The aide helps her get all the information that she can't hear. Even though the aide helps Molly get through the day, she still has times when she hates having this person hovering over her all the time. She wishes that she was like all the other kids.

Even though Molly can speak very well, she still has speech therapy every day. Her parents are worried that she is going to end up losing all her language because she's not practicing her speech enough and she can't hear herself. You would think that Molly wouldn't mind the classes that much, but she really hates them. Her speech teachers make her think she is starting over from scratch, even though in reality she is nowhere near the beginning.

The things that Molly really depends on for communicating are speaking, lip-reading and some reading and writing. But this is hard for her because little kids her age move and speak quickly and she can't always keep up. The other kids get frustrated and impatient when she doesn't understand. Sometimes both she and the person she is trying to talk to end up feeling like crying and ready to kill each other. But the kids at Molly's school are learning to not say too much and to make their words very simple. And Molly has learned not to get so frustrated



and to keep trying.

Sometimes Molly and her aide have to leave the classroom to work on things that she didn't quite understand. It makes Molly feel almost isolated from everyone else who is doing big projects and different work in the classroom.

Even though this is hard for Molly, changing to her neighborhood school has brought her more into the community. She knows more kids, she has kids to play with after school, she can be in after school programs, go to school fairs, etc.

Even with the hardships, Molly is happy to be at her new school. And just like Molly has learned to cope with deafness, she has learned to like school and help make it better for her and everybody else.

## Memorable Events and Personal History:Molly Sanchez

Molly's memorable events and personal history have been both positive and negative. Her experiences from when she was a little girl till now have made a big difference on Molly's thinking and acting. Sometimes things like winning a poster contest or being voted for class helper can really make a difference in Molly's day and life. It helps Molly remember that she is capable of doing most of the things that everyone else can do, but sometimes she does and can forget that.

One thing, that made Molly look within herself was when she first found out that she had a great Aunt who was deaf and had the same name as her. Once Molly found out about Aunt Molly and got acquainted with her, Molly spent as much time with her as she could. And to make it even easier, Aunt Molly lived right near Molly's home so Molly can see her a lot. Being with Aunt Molly was like a dream come true. Finally there was someone to talk to, and understand Molly's feelings. Molly felt great to know that there was someone else who felt some of the same feelings. It just opened up Molly and let her get out everything that nobody else would understand. Plus, it made Aunt Molly happier because she had someone to talk to too!

Aunt Molly was someone that was very special to Molly and helped her but Molly has experienced some things that she really could have done without. Some that Molly won't ever forget either. One was that Molly's dream as a 6 year old was to become a ballarina. So her parents decided to let her try ballet. The building that Molly's first class was going to be in, use to be a Mansion. It had lots of interesting rooms and staircases. A lot of those rooms were filled with offices but there were still a handfull of rooms left to be explored. And, thats exactly what Molly did. Ballet was great for Molly but the Mansion was a little bit better. Molly misunderstood what Molly's ballet teacher had said and thought she said they could take a fifty minute break instead of a fifteen minute one so Molly thinking she had a lot of time pretended to be an explorer discovering a whole new world. While Molly was busy exploring, her teacher was sending out kids to search for Molly.

When Molly's teacher finally found Molly, she was so relieved that she never noticed that Molly was crying tears of embarrassment because, she shouldn't have been exploring.

When Molly finally came back to where all the kids were, she only stayed there long enough to here two words "She's weird" and Molly was calling up her mom to go home. And since then Molly hasn't taken up ballet again but has learned now to not give up and to have her own shadow not anyone elses.

Before Molly's mom had a job as a librarian she was going to be a Word-Processor Specialist and her boss Henry invited



the whole family over to his house. He had a wife and one boy that was Roberto's age. Thrilled to be invited somewhere they drove over. At the very beginning of the evening Henry suspected something different about Molly because sometimes when you would be talking to Molly she would say I don't understand or not even say anything. What bothered Henry a lot was that when he would be talking to Molly Molly would look right into his eyes and he was very uncomfortable about that.

At dinner the food was good and the conversation was going smooth until Henry's wife brought up the conversation of what Molly, Roberto and Marlena were doing in school. After Marlena and Roberto had spoken Molly told everybody all about school and how the aid that works with her all day Ms. Robinson is really nice Molly got interrupted by Henry before she was finished. He asked Molly why she had an aid with her all the time. Since Molly was pretty young and didn't know what was appropriate and what wasn't, she blurted out "I'm deaf didn't you know that?" After that Henry hardly said anything and everybody else was very quiet to except for Molly who really had no idea that she had blew it.

When it was time to leave nobody said much except good bye and thanks and when they got home Molly went to bed right away not thinking much of that visit at all. Molly's mom did end up losing the job but the one who got the worst out of it was Molly and for a while Molly wouldn't speak to her mom because she was so ashamed. But after a while it began to be a small concept in Molly's mind. But Molly still hasn't forgotten it and probably never will

Some Personal History of Molly's is that her father is Spanish so Molly is half Spanish and she has two grandparents that are Spanish. And when Molly was 8 months old she went to Spain to visit her grandparents for 4 months. And even though Molly couldn't and never did she had a really good time there.

All of Molly's experiences have done some good to her life even if they were not very nice. And so from each experience Molly has learned something to make herself better.

Favorite things: Molly Sanchez

Tv show: Square One and Ghost Writer.

Book: The littles

Dessert: Boston Cream Pie

Number: 27

Candy: Sour Patch kids

Hang out place: Molly's room

Color: Hot pink

Item of clothing: Dresses

Food: Macaroni and cheese and chicken noodle soup

Animal: Puppy dog

Restaurant: Chichi's

Place: Chuck E-Cheese

Sibling: Roberto

Toy: Pretty and Me

School: New Rochelle Elem.

Teacher: Mrs. Sayer from the deaf school in Jackson Heights

Vacation Destination: Bermuda

Dream Home: A Mansion

Amusement ride: Teacups and the Scrambler

First name: Felicity

Game to Pretend: Detective

Game to Play: Pretty Pretty Princess and Clue

Best advice ever recieved: You're just as good as everyone else when you are only being you, not anyone else..