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## CoVideos

### Online Stories and Activities to chase away the Lockdown Blues

In this edition, short stories from Jenny Éclair's collection "*Listening In*" read by Sue Ball and accompanied by follow-up activities you can try at home.

*[With thanks to Sphere Publishing and the Hachette group for permission to use this text.]*

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#### Activities – Valerie Lashes Out

##### 1. Remembering & Chatting

Hello everyone! I really hope you enjoyed listening to Valerie Lashes Out by Jenny Éclair. We're now going to head off into three different activities. These are chatting and discussing activities, so you will need partner.

This story is about a volunteer in a small stately home. I want you to have a think about whether you have ever done any volunteering? Or may be the person you're talking to has done some volunteering. If so, what was the volunteering and how did you enjoy it?

**Press pause** so that you can have a good chat

##### 2. Chatting

Activity number 2 is asking you why you think Valerie 'lashed out'? What was it that made her drop the ginger jar on Arthur's head?

Assuming that his injuries were quite minor, what do you think should be an appropriate punishment for her? Should she be allowed back to volunteering at Smethwick House?

I'll be really interested to hear what you think! **Press pause now.**

##### 3. Describing & Remembering

And finally, activity number 3. Valerie describes herself as 'five foot eleven, with size ten feet'.

Who is the person you know with the largest feet? And who is the tallest person you have ever met? (this might be the same person of course!)

When you've done that, think about it the other way around - who is the most petite adult you have ever met, and who had the smallest feet?

What can you remember about each of these two people? Have a discussion. It could be a friend, or it could be a member of your family.

If you have any photographs of these people, get them out now and have a look through them.

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#### Conclusion

*That's all for now. Goodbye and I hope you enjoyed these activities.*

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