

5 QUESTIONS FOR...

By Allison Kane

Lester Holt

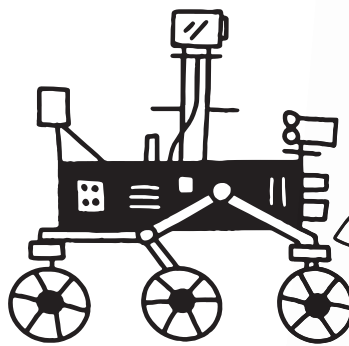
The news anchor talks about telling stories and creating a news show for kids.



1 WHAT MADE YOU WANT TO BE AN ANCHOR?

When I was a kid, my brother worked in radio and he let me observe him at the station. From that point on, I knew I wanted to be in broadcasting. In college, I started doing news at a radio station and I never looked back. To be able to tell stories and meet people and travel to interesting places—it's just an incredible thrill.

2 WHAT SKILLS DOES AN ANCHOR NEED? It's important to know how to write well. I talk about the news on TV, but what people may not realize is that the stories have to be written first. You also need to be a good reader so you can become a good researcher and verify information.



3 WHAT NEWS STORY DID YOU REALLY ENJOY?

I did a story recently on future space explorations. We spent time with the scientists who are running the Mars rover. I got to put on a special suit to go into a room where they make satellites and space probes.

4 WHAT DO YOU DO IN YOUR SPARE TIME?

I play electric bass and upright bass. I'm in a band along with some of my NBC News colleagues, and it gives me great joy. We're called the Roughcuts. A "rough cut" is when you do an early edit on a story, so we thought that would be a fun name.

5 WHY DID YOU CREATE A NEWS SHOW FOR KIDS?

When the coronavirus pandemic began, we had a lot of questions and worries. And we realized that if the grown-ups were having issues, then kids were probably having difficulty understanding what was happening too. We decided to create *NBC Nightly News: Kids Edition* with the idea that the more you know and understand things, the less scary they are.

