



The Benefits of Signing

Signing at Home

- Signing allows your infant to clearly communicate specific thoughts.
- Signing reduces frustration for your baby – and for you!
- Signing gives you a window into your child's mind and personality.
- Signing won't delay verbal language development – in fact, it may accelerate it. Research shows that babies who sign usually start to talk sooner and develop larger vocabularies than non-signing babies.
- Signing reinforces verbal language by adding visual and kinesthetic emphasis to auditory input.
- Signing children tend to be more interested in books.
- Signing builds on babies' natural tendency to use gestures.

Signing in Childcare Settings

- Signing helps to lower noise levels in preschool classrooms by reducing frustrated screaming and crying.
- Signing minimizes stress and frustration for caregivers who are responsible for meeting the needs of many children at once.
- Signing reduces the “guesswork” in meeting each child's maintenance needs resulting in more available time for positive, developmental interactions.
- Caregivers report that signing significantly reduces problems with biting. Take away the frustration and biting goes with it.
- The use of American Sign Language gives children with special needs the opportunity to interact in a meaningful way with typically developing children. General acceptance of children with special needs is greatly enhanced.