

Fun Facts about ASL

- ◆ **Did you know that sign languages differ between countries and regions just as spoken languages do?**
- ◆ **About 250,000—500,000 ASL users in USA & Canada Most of them use ASL as their primary language**
- ◆ **ASL is recognized as a foreign language for credit in 35 states**
- ◆ **The ASL we know today is most likely drawn from both the local sign language and French sign language of the past**
- ◆ **Research shows signing with hearing babies enhances cognitive development**

Who to Contact for ASL Information

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Your Child 's Teacher

Outreach Services for Deaf & Hard of Hearing Children

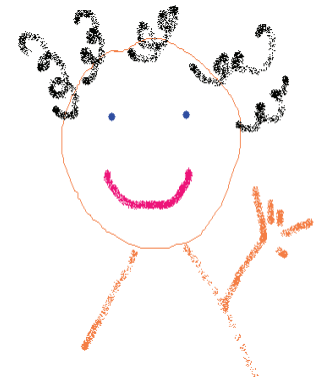
Indiana School for the Deaf
1200 East 42nd Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46205-2099
Phone (317) 550-4800
www.deafhoosiers.com
www.deaf-kids.org
Fax (317) 550-4873

Outreach Services for
Deaf & Hard of Hearing
Children

For Parents and Families of
Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Children:

How Can I Learn American Sign
Language at Home

Resources



Resources Available

Opportunities in your community

Join ASL classes with your family and friends

Attend social and sporting events with Deaf and hearing adults and other parents of Deaf children

Contact DHHS (Deaf/Hard of Hearing Services) for ASL classes offered throughout the state: IN.gov/fssa/dhhs



Parents and Families,
When you are first time ASL learners or curious about the language, check out these websites:

Handspeak.com

Dictionary

Dawnsign.com

Wonderful books

ASLRose.com

Bilingual/Bicultural materials

ASLingo.com

Unique Educational Games

DeafPlanet.com

Fun activities

SayItInSign.com

ASL Flash Cards

SignsforIntelligence.com

Sign videos

Sign2Me.com

Sign videos

Signing Times

Check your local TV listings

Tips

For Practice Signing in the Home

During meals

During playtime

During storytelling

Sharing books using ASL

Doing art activities

Playing children's games

Watching ASL videos

Benefits of Signing with Children

Increases brain functioning

Increases visual right brain usage

Increases cognitive second language left brain usage

Creates higher IQ levels in children

Enhances fine motor coordination

Learning a natural language makes additional language learning easier

Raises communication awareness and abilities

Enhances children's vocabulary

Babies can communicate their wants and needs

Reduces frustration and enhances bond between child and parent/caregiver

