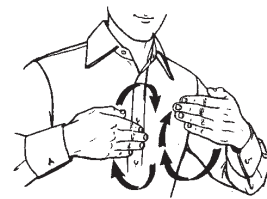
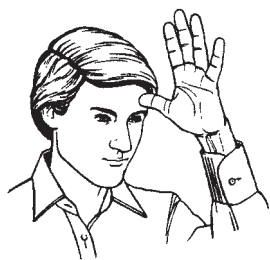


SIGNING is “IN” at Stepping Stone School!



In the form of Stepping Stone School's unprecedented American Sign Language (ASL) program! One of our most successful Curriculum Components is off the press and here for you!

A large poster of developmentally appropriate vocabulary is displayed in each classroom, along with a poster representing the comprehensive signing vocabulary for our entire ASL curriculum program.



Use these handouts to recognize a sign your child may use and to learn the signs yourself!



Each age group is introduced to a specific signing vocabulary, meaningful to that group of children and building upon the words learned in the younger classes. The teachers have been trained in how to incorporate the words into their daily interactions with the children. Many Stepping Stone teachers were currently using sign language in their classrooms, and signing has now become a specific part of our revised Pre-K curriculum.

In our classrooms we are seeing the children's confident and excited attitudes as they learn to communicate in this “universal language”. Research shows that sign language promotes both oral language and reading skills. Children who are learning English may be uncomfortable speaking the new language, but are comfortable learning signs with the whole group. Children with language-learning difficulties benefit from this alternate method of communication. The confidence that comes from communicating through signing leads children to have more confidence communicating orally.

Children communicate physically before they verbalize. Consequently, infants are able to express their needs in sign well before they speak. Without realizing it, parents are already teaching babies gestures such as waves, hugs and pointing. The use of signs reduces the child's frustration because his needs are understood more easily and therefore met more quickly.

This curriculum enhancement generates excitement throughout our schools. We observe increased attentiveness and responsiveness among the children to the needs of one another, as they listen to words and watch hands and faces!



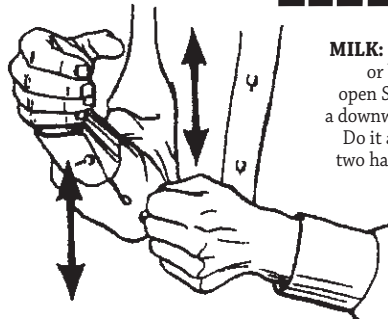
**Stepping Stone
SCHOOL**

Education That Inspires!



Infant Signs

milk



MILK: Squeeze one or both slightly open S hands with a downward motion. Do it alternately if two hands are used.



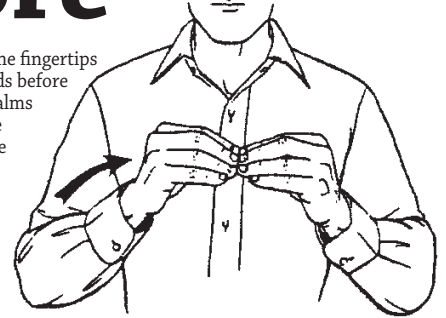
yes

YES:

Nod the right S hand up and down with palm facing forward.

more

MORE: Touch the fingertips of both hands before the chest with palms facing down. The right hand can be brought up to meet the left from a slightly lower position.



please

PLEASE, ENJOY, GRATIFY, LIKE, PLEASURE:

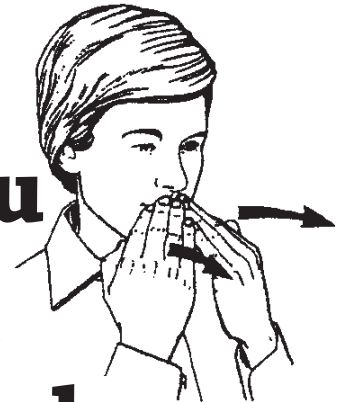
Make a counterclockwise circle with the right flat hand over the heart.



thank you

THANKS, THANK YOU, YOU'RE WELCOME:

Move both flat hands forward and down from the lips until palms face upward.

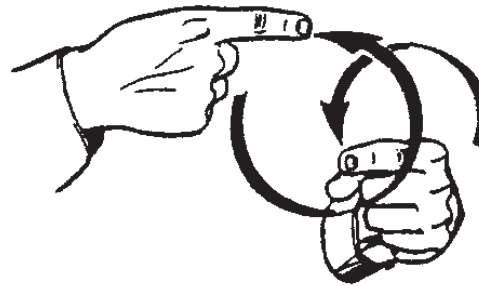
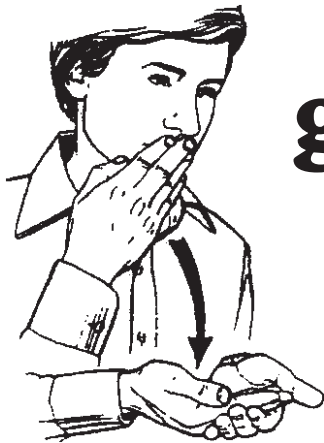


you're welcome

good

GOOD, WELL:

Move the right flat hand down from the mouth to rest in the left hand.



come

COME: Point both index fingers toward each other and rotate them around each other while simultaneously moving them toward the body.

wash

WASH: Rub the knuckles of both closed hands together with circular movements.



food

FOOD, CONSUME, DINE, EAT, MEAL:

The right hand moves toward the mouth a few times.



Hand Shapes

Note that unless otherwise stated, these expressions refer only to the ending position of the hand as it is here illustrated:



The And Hand

The Flat Hand



The Curved Hand

The Open Hand



The Closed Hand



The Bent Hand

The Clawed Hand





mommy

MOMMY, MOTHER:

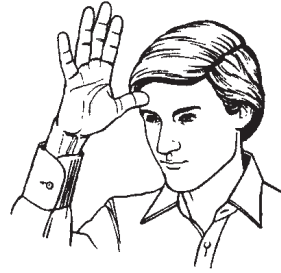
Touch the chin with the thumb of the right open hand.



daddy

DADDY, FATHER:

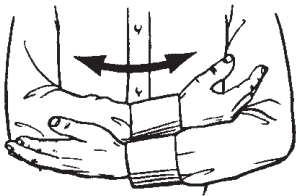
Touch the forehead with the right open-handed thumb.



baby

BABY, INFANT:

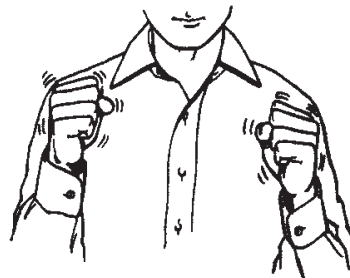
Hold the arms in the natural position for cradling a baby and rock the arms sideways.



cold

COLD, CHILLY, FRIGID,

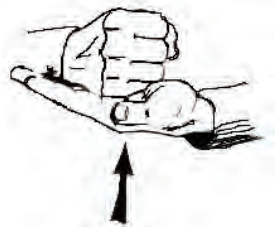
WINTER: Hold up both S hands in front of the chest and shake them.



help

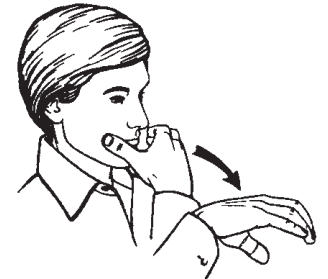
HELP, AID, ASSIST, BOOST:

Place the right closed hand on the flat left palm and lift both hands together.



hot

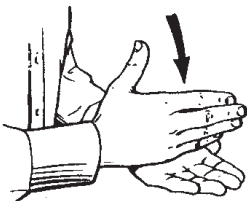
HOT: Place the fingers and thumb of the right C hand at the sides of the mouth, then quickly pivot the hand forward to the right.



stop

STOP, CEASE, HALT:

Bring the little-finger side of the right flat hand down sharply at right angles on the left palm.



no

NO: Bring the right thumb and the index and middle fingers together.



water

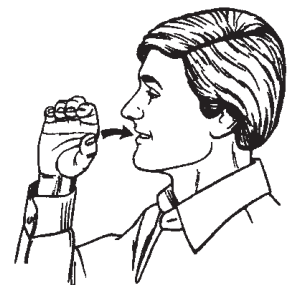
WATER: Touch the mouth with the index finger of the right W hand a few times.



drink

DRINK:

Move the right C hand in a short arc toward the mouth.



Source: *Signing Made Easy*, Rod R. Butterworth and Mickey Flodin

Hand Shapes

Note that unless otherwise stated, these expressions refer only to the ending position of the hand as it is here illustrated:



The And Hand



The Flat Hand



The Curved Hand



The Open Hand



The Closed Hand



The Bent Hand

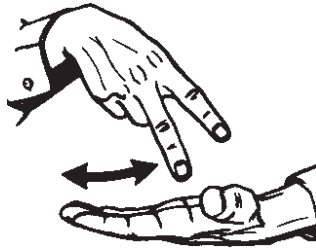


The Clawed Hand



dance

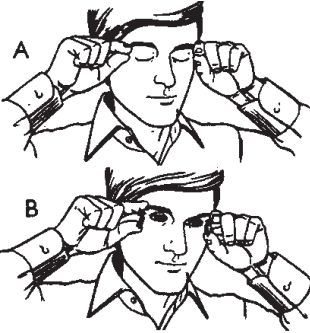
DANCE, BALL: Point the left flat upturned hand to the right; then swing the down-turned fingers of the right V hand from side to side over the left palm.



sad

SAD, DEJECTED, DESPONDENT, DOWNCAST, FORLORN, SORROWFUL:

With palms facing in, bend the head forward slightly while dropping the open hands down the length of the face. Assume a sad expression.



awake

AWAKE, AROUSE, WAKE UP: Place the closed thumbs and index fingers of both Q hands at the corners of the eyes; then open eyes and fingers simultaneously.



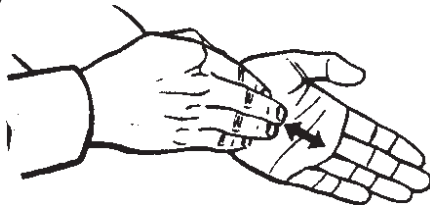
hungry

HUNGER, APPETITE, CRAVE, FAMINE, STARVE: Move the thumb and fingers of the right C hand down the center of the chest from just below the throat.

soap

SOAP:

Brush the right fingertips across the left palm several times. NOTE: Variations in the direction and manner of rubbing exist for this sign.



toilet

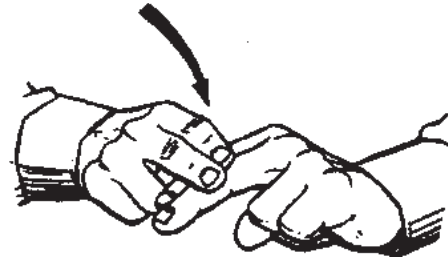
TOILET, BATHROOM, RESTROOM:

Shake the right T hand in front of the chest with the palm facing forward. Restroom can also be signed by pointing the right R hand forward and moving it in a short arc to the right.



myself

MYSELF, SELF: Bring the A hand against the center of the chest with palm facing left.



chair

CHAIR: Place the palm side of the right H fingers on the back of the left H fingers.

lie down

LIE DOWN, RECLINE:

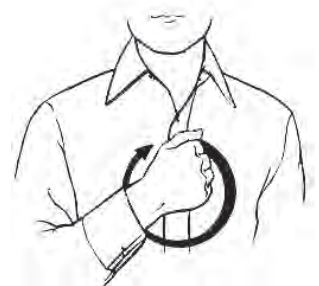
Place the back of the right V fingers on the left flat palm.



I'm Sorry

SORROW, APOLOGY, REGRET:

Rotate the right A (or S) hand in a few counterclockwise circles over the heart.



Hand Shapes

Note that unless otherwise stated, these expressions refer only to the ending position of the hand as it is here illustrated:



The And Hand

The Flat Hand



The Curved Hand

The Open Hand



The Closed Hand



The Bent Hand

The Clawed Hand

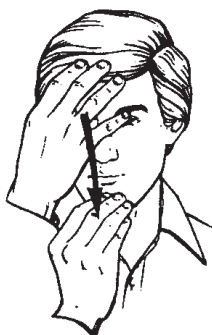




sleep

SLEEP, DOZE, NAP, SIESTA, SLUMBER:

Place the palm side of the right open hand in front of the face and move it down to chin level while forming an and hand.



smell

SMELL, FRAGRANCE, FUMES, ODOR, SCENT:

Pass the slightly curved palm of the right hand upward in front of the nose a few times.



children

CHILD, CHILDREN:

Place the right flat downturned hand before the body and motion as if patting the head of a child. When referring to more than one child, move the hand to another position and repeat the sign.



How?

HOW:

Point the fingers of both bent hands down and place hands back to back. Revolve hands in and upward together until palms are flat and facing up.

taste

TASTE:

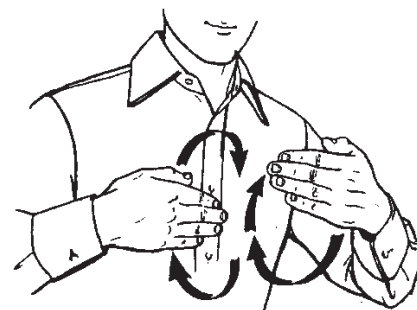
Touch the tip of the tongue with the right middle finger. The other fingers of the right open hand are extended.



happy

HAPPY, DELIGHT, GLAD, JOY, MERRY:

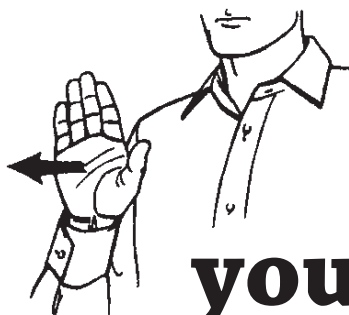
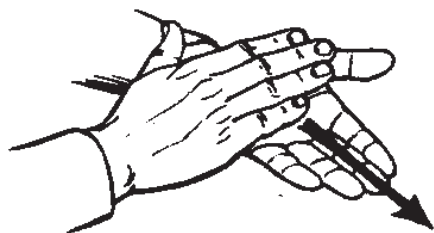
Move both flat hands in forward circular movements with palms touching the chest alternately or simultaneously. One hand is often used by itself.



clean

CLEAN, NICE, PURE:

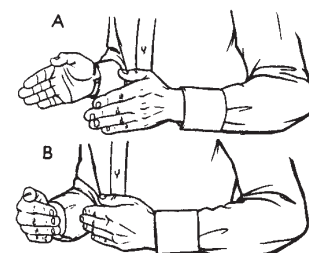
Move the palm of the right flat hand across the palm of the left flat hand from wrist to fingertips.



your

YOUR, HIS, HER, THEIR:

Push the right flat hand forward with palm facing the person referred to. The signs for male and female can precede his and her if it is not obvious from the context. Add a final move to the right for your in the plural.



room

ROOM:

Outline the sides and shape of a square in two movements with both flat hands. R hands can be used also.

Hand Shapes

Note that unless otherwise stated, these expressions refer only to the ending position of the hand as it is here illustrated:



The And Hand

The Flat Hand



The Curved Hand



The Open Hand



The Closed Hand



The Bent Hand



The Clawed Hand

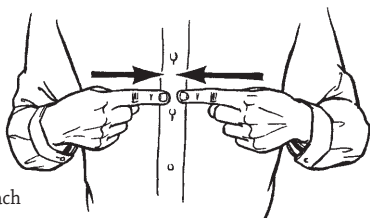




hurt

HURT, PAIN, ACHE, INJURY:

Thrust the index fingers toward each other several times. This may be done adjacent to the particular area of the body that is suffering from pain.



feelings

FEELING, MOTIVE, SENSATION:

Move the right middle finger upward on the chest with other fingers extended.



I love you

I LOVE YOU:

The thumb and the index and little fingers are extended.



friend

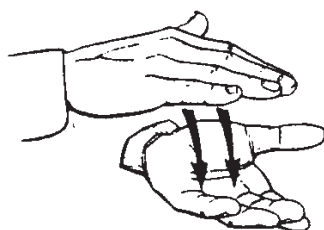
FRIEND, FRIENDSHIP:

Interlock the right and left index fingers and repeat in reverse.

school

SCHOOL:

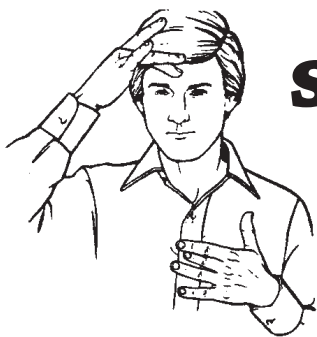
Clap the hands two or three times.



patient

PATIENCE, BEAR:

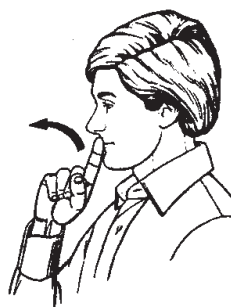
Move the right A thumb downward over the lips.



sickness

SICK, DISEASE, ILL:

Place the right middle finger on the forehead and the left middle finger on the stomach. Assume an appropriate facial expression.



truth

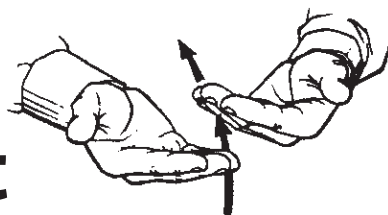
TRUE, AUTHENTIC, GENUINE, REAL, REALLY, SINCERE, SURE, TRUTH, VALID:

With palm facing left, move the right index finger in a forward arc from the lips.

almost

ALMOST, NEARLY:

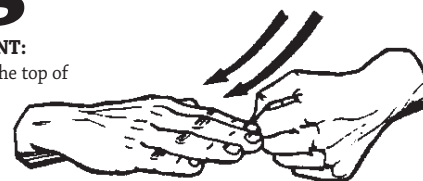
Brush the little-finger edge of the right hand upward over the fingertips of the curved left hand. Both palms face up.



enough

ENOUGH, PLENTY, SUFFICIENT:

Move the right flat hand across the top of the left S hand a few times.



Hand Shapes

Note that unless otherwise stated, these expressions refer only to the ending position of the hand as it is here illustrated:



The And Hand

The Flat Hand



The Curved Hand

The Open Hand



The Closed Hand



The Bent Hand

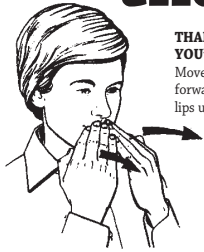
The Clawed Hand





School Age Signs

thanks



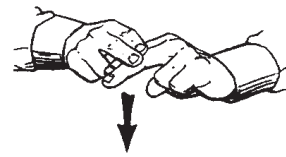
THANKS, THANK YOU, YOU'RE WELCOME:
Move both flat hands forward and down from the lips until palms face upward.

How



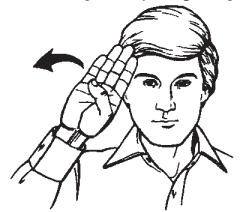
HOW:
Point the fingers of both bent hands down and place hands back to back. Revolve hands in and upward together until palms are flat and facing up.

sit



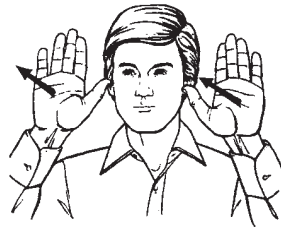
SIT, BE SEATED, SEAT:
First sign chair, then move both hands down slightly.

hi



HI, HELLO:
Move the right B hand to the right from a position by the right temple.

wonderful

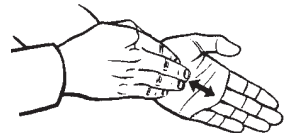


WONDERFUL, GREAT, MARVELOUS:
Both flat hands move up and forward a few times.

wash with soap



WASH:
Rub the knuckles of both closed hands together with circular movements.



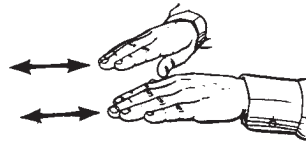
talk



TALK, COMMUNICATE, CONVERSATION, DIALOGUE, INTERVIEW:

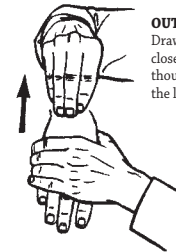
Move both index fingers back and forth from the lips alternately. Use C hands for communicate and conversation, D hands for dialogue, and I hands for interview.

walk



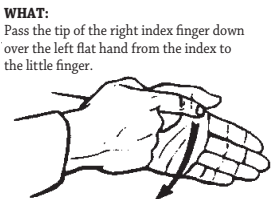
WALK, STEP:
Hold both flat hands in front with palms down; then imitate walking by moving each hand forward alternately.

out



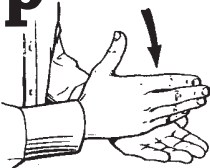
OUT:
Draw the right closed hand up, though and out of the left C hand.

What?



WHAT:
Pass the tip of the right index finger down over the left flat hand from the index to the little finger.

stop



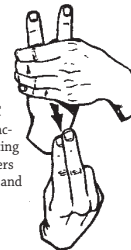
STOP, CEASE, HALT:
Bring the little finger side of the right flat hand down sharply at a right angle on the left palm.

later



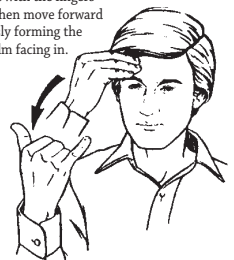
LATER, AFTER A WHILE, AFTERWARD, SUBSEQUENTLY:
Hold the left flat hand up with the palm facing right. Place the thumb of the right L hand in the center of the left palm, and pivot the right index finger forward and down.

both



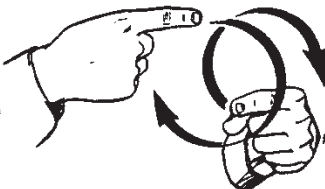
BOTH, PAIR: Hold the left C hand to the front with palm facing in. With the right palm facing in, draw the right open V fingers down through the left C hand and close the V fingers.

Why?



WHY:
Touch the forehead with the fingers of the right hand; then move forward while simultaneously forming the Y hand with the palm facing in.

go



GO:
Point both index fingers toward each other and rotate them around each other as they are moved away from the body.

hang up



HANG UP, HANGER, SUSPEND:
With palm facing forward, move the right X hand up and forward a short distance.

please



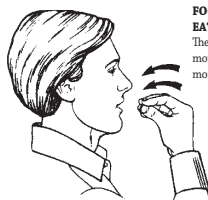
PLEASE, ENJOY, GRATIFY, PLEASURE:
Make a counterclockwise circle with the right flat hand over the heart.



drink

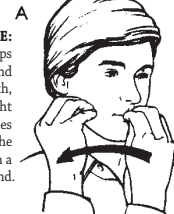
DRINK:
Move the right C hand in a short arc toward the mouth.

food



FOOD, CONSUME, EAT, MEAL, DINE:
The right hand moves toward the mouth a few times.

HOME:
Place the fingertips of the right and hand first at the mouth, then at the right cheek. Sometimes the position at the cheek is made with a slight curved hand.



WORK, JOB, LABOR, TASK:
With palms down, tap the wrist of the right S hand on the wrist of the left S hand a few times.

homework

HOMEWORK, (Combine the signs for HOME and WORK)

patient



PATIENCE, BEAR:
Move the right A thumb downward over the lips.

Hand Shapes

Note that unless otherwise stated, these expressions refer only to the ending position of the hand as it is here illustrated:



The Flat Hand



The Open Hand



The Curved Hand



The Closed Hand



The Bent Hand

The Clawed Hand

