

# COME SIGN WITH ME



## Teacher's Guide Week One - Basic Signs

### Introduction:

- Purpose
- Importance of Using the correct sign/ASL
- Handout
- Bibliography

### Introduce Opening - "Hello Everybody"

Hello everybody and how are you.  
How are you, how are you?  
Hello everybody and how are you.  
How are you today?

### Introduce Signs:

- More
- Eat
- Drink
- Finished
- Stop
- Sorry

### Read:

Pass out Simple Signs by Cindy Wheeler and read together  
More, More, More, Said the Baby, Vera Williams  
The Wheels on the Bus, Maryann Kovalski

### Finish with - "The More We Are Together"

The more we are together, together, together,  
The more we are together,  
The happier we'll be.  
For your friends are my friends,  
And my friends are your friends.  
The more we are together,  
The happier we will be.

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## Family Activities Week One - Basic Signs

*“Infants will use extensive body language, facial expressions, and all sorts of verbal sounds to interact with you. These movements and sounds will eventually evolve into language. But until they do, you may have an incredibly difficult time understanding your infants’ attempts to express themselves.”<sup>1</sup>*

“Come Sign With Me” will teach you another avenue from which language development can form. By beginning parent / infant communication around six – eight months through the use of signs, you will communicate with each other before comprehensible speech typically develops at sixteen to eighteen months. “Through signing, you will give your infants a way to express themselves

that will be more precise and effective than smiling, cooing, and crying. Your young toddlers can use single signs (and many times several signs together) nearly one year before they effectively use speech.”<sup>2</sup>

“Studies conducted at the University of California at Davis by Drs. Linda Acredolo and Susan Goodwyn determined that babies who used symbolic gestures learned to speak more readily than those babies who did not. Their research also indicated that the signing babies scored higher in intelligence tests, understood more words, had larger vocabularies, and engaged in more sophisticated play.”<sup>3</sup>

1, 2, 3 “Sign With Your Baby,” by Joseph Garcia

### THINGS TO REMEMBER

Have fun! Learning the signs should be enjoyable!

Use facial and body expressions to help convey the sign.

Make the sign close to your face.

Use ASL (American Sign Language) signs when signing.

Try to be exact in your use of the sign.



### “The More We Are Together”

The more we are together,  
together, together,  
The more we are together,  
The happier we’ll be.  
For your friends are my friends,  
And my friends are your friends.  
The more we are together,  
The happier we will be!

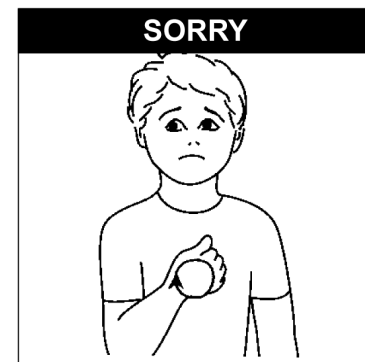
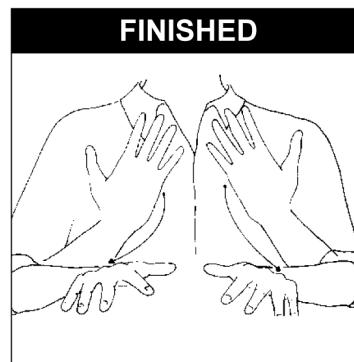
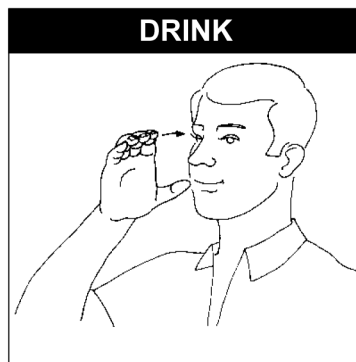
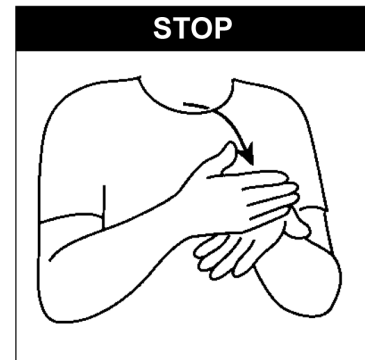
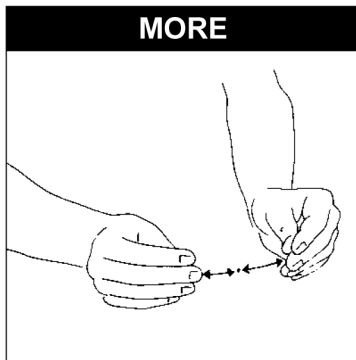
### When Should You Introduce a New Sign?

**Before:** Expressive Gazes happen when your infant or toddler has a need, or wants to express a feeling or ask a question.

**During:** Chance Mutual Gazes happen when you and your infant or toddler look at each other at the same time by chance, or for no particular reason.

**After:** Pointed Gazes happen when you and your child look at the same thing at the same time and then look at each other.

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## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Joseph Garcia ISBN 0-9668367-7-4

### Signing Exact English

Gerilee Gustason & Esther Zawolkow  
ISBN 0-916708-23-3

### Sign Language Fun

Linda Bove, (out of print)

### Galludet Survival Guide to Signing

Leonard G. Lane, ISBN 0-930323-67-X

### The Joy of Signing

Lottie Riekehof ISBN 0-882435-20-5

### A Basic Course in Manual Communication

Terrence O'Rourke ISBN 0-913072-01-X

### Simple Signs

Cindy Wheeler ISBN 0-590-88020-9

### Songs in Sign

S. Harold Collins ISBN 0-931-993-71-7

### An Alphabet of Signs

S. Harold Collins, ISBN 0-931993-65-2

### Mother Goose in Sign

S. Harold Collins ISBN 0-931993-66-0

### Handtalk Zoo

George Anacona & Mary Beth Miller  
ISBN 0-02-700801-0

### My ABC Signs of Animal Friends

Ben Bahan & Joe Dannis ISBN 0-915035-31-6

### Foods

S. Harold Collins, ISBN 0-931993-87-3

### Fruits & Vegetables

S. Harold Collins ISBN 0-931993-88-1