

# The Language of the Body — Sign Language

## Introduction

Base Sheet

The child learns basic American Sign Language (ASL) signs, discovering that the body itself can be a tool for communication. This connects the body/skeleton theme to language and cultural awareness of the Deaf community.

### What You Need:

- ASL sign chart or printout
- ASL alphabet poster
- Mirror (for the child to see their own signs)
- Optional: video of ASL being used

### Steps:

1. 'All week we have learned about our bodies — bones, joints, and movement. Did you know your body can also TALK? Sign language uses your hands to communicate!'
2. Teach basic ASL signs: hello, thank you, please, friend, I love you, yes, no.
3. Practice each sign with the three-period lesson.
4. 'People who are Deaf or hard of hearing use sign language every day. It is a REAL language with its own grammar and poetry.'
5. Try finger spelling: teach the ASL alphabet for the child's name.
6. The child teaches the signs to a family member.

### Work Space:

