



# SIGN LANGUAGE TOOLS FOR THE CLASSROOM

Successful Solutions Professional Development LLC

**[WWW.MYECECLASS-SOCIAL.COM/SIGN.HTML](http://WWW.MYECECLASS-SOCIAL.COM/SIGN.HTML)**

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**ECE Virtual Classroom**

Online Courses for Early Childhood Educators



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# Sign Language Tools for the Classroom

## *5 clock hours early childhood education*

### Course Description

American Sign Language is a common language used in the United States and Canada by members of the Deaf community. This course provides an introduction and overview of Deaf culture, characteristics of American Sign Language, and approximately 150 basic signs that are commonly used between children and caregivers. This course includes many videos and reflections, as well as helpful resources and reading material that will assist caregivers in including sign language elements in their programs.

- **Washington STARS credit:** Interactions (5 hours)
- **CDA Content Area:** Enhancement of Social and Emotional Development (5 hours)

### CDA Settings

- Infant/Toddler
- Preschool
- Family Child Care (Mixed-age)

### Learning Outcomes

- ✓ Explain best methods in teaching sign language to young children
- ✓ Identify common myths about Deaf culture
- ✓ Describe the culture of the Deaf community
- ✓ Identify and recall some commonly used signs
- ✓ Identify and select appropriate handshapes for some basic signs
- ✓ List three ways to use American Sign Language in a classroom or educational setting
- ✓ State some helpful signs for classrooms and child care programs
- ✓ Discuss adapting sign language games for specific age groups and ability levels

### Course Content

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Course Agenda                             | 11. Discussion: Facial Expressions (5/24) |
| 2. Sign Language Introduction Video          | 12. Occupations (6/24)                    |
| 3. ASL Video Discussion (1/24)               | 13. Basic Signs                           |
| 4. Deaf Culture and Community                | 14. Color Signs (7/24)                    |
| 5. Cultural Influences on Language           | 15. Days of the Week (8/24)               |
| 6. Video Protecting Deaf Culture             | 16. People Signs (9/24)                   |
| 7. Discussion Deaf Culture (2/24)            | 17. Place Signs (10/24)                   |
| 8. Hand Shapes                               | 18. Animal Signs (11/24)                  |
| 9. Facial Expressions & Body Language (3/24) | 19. Food Signs (12/24)                    |
| 10. Signed Alphabet (4/24)                   | 20. Feeling Signs (13/24)                 |



21. School Signs (14/24)	29. Make it Fun!
22. Basic Signs (15/24)	30. Discussion: Make it Fun! (19/24)
23. Discussion: Signs in the Classroom (16/24)	31. Sign Language Quiz #1 (20/24)
24. Check for Understanding (17/24)	32. Sign Language Quiz #2 (21/24)
25. Where to Begin when Teaching Signs	33. Sign Language Quiz #3 (22/24)
26. Signs by Age	34. Sign Language Quiz #4 (23/24)
27. Older Children Signs	35. Sign Language Quiz #5 (24/24)
28. Classroom Management (18/24)	36. Evaluation Form

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## Sources

- Impact of Symbolic Gesturing on Early Language Development by Susan W. Goodwyn, Linda P. Acredolo, Catherine A. Brown, 2008, Retrieved from <https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/cf5b/8133b4f3f88a267f85012f4ff85bb1ee9aeb.pdf>
  - About Baby Signing by Brenda Seal, PhD, CCC-SLP, 2010, Retrieved from <https://leader.pubs.asha.org/article.aspx?articleid=2291803>
  - Using Sign Language as a Communication Tool in Infant/Toddler Group Care Settings by Abby Francik, 2005. Retrieved from [https://kb.osu.edu/dspace/bitstream/handle/1811/500/Honors\\_Senior?sequence=1](https://kb.osu.edu/dspace/bitstream/handle/1811/500/Honors_Senior?sequence=1)
  - The great baby signing debate by Gwyneth Doherty-Sneddon, 2008, Retrieved from <https://thepsychologist.bps.org.uk/volume-21/edition-4/great-baby-signing-debate>
  - ASL Nook Signed Videos, <https://aslnook.com/>
  - ASL That, Signed Video Resources on YouTube, <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7fvfWv6FL7HeTFeSLz-muQ>
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## Glossary of Terms

### Adaptations

Some examples include the use of flashing lights to alert a person of a doorbell ringing, or an alarm going off. Video conferencing technology is used so that communication is visible as opposed to auditory. Many Deaf people use text messaging as much as possible, as well.

### Agent Marker

The agent marker is a sign that is used in conjunction with another sign that then turns the first sign into a sign for an occupation or job title.

### ASL

American Sign Language which is a complete language that is used by members of the Deaf Community.



## Fingerspell

Signing the alphabet to spell a name or word that doesn't have a sign or when a signer doesn't know the sign.

## Interpreter

Hearing people often see ASL interpreters during events such as press conferences, concerts, sporting events, and more. These interpreters have a very important job to do. They are taking the spoken information and translating it into American Sign Language. Doing so is a complex and heavy undertaking which relies on the person's ability to accurately translate the spoken information.

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## Optional Resources for Further Study

- Video: ASL Animals Song Lesson for Kids - Learn how to sign Animals with Fireese, <https://youtu.be/urGIbCsCgNg?t=4s>
- Video: Learn Zoo Animals, American Sign Language, <https://youtu.be/09hdoZFWS8I>
- Video: ASL Nook - Sea Animals, <https://youtu.be/j5pVWQHKcww>
- Video: ASL Nook - Zoo Animals, [https://youtu.be/WLs\\_wck1feg](https://youtu.be/WLs_wck1feg)
- Video: AN Season 5 - Dog Signs, <https://youtu.be/0dTXCENI2Bo>
- Learning American Sign Language by The National Association of the Deaf, <https://www.nad.org/resources/american-sign-language/learning-american-sign-language/>
- Basic ASL: First 100 Signs from Life Print, <http://www.lifeprint.com/asl101/pages-layout/concepts.htm>
- American Sign Language by National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, <https://www.nidcd.nih.gov/health/american-sign-language>
- Learning American Sign Language (ASL) by Signing Savvy, <https://www.signingsavvy.com/learning>
- Sign Language Dictionary by Signing Time, <https://www.signingtime.com/resources/dictionary/>
- Activities using American Sign Language by Signing Time, <https://www.signingtime.com/resources/activities/>
- Basic Words in Sign Language by Start ASL, <https://www.startasl.com/basic-words-in-sign-language>
- Solving Common Classroom Problems: Sign Language Lends a Hand By Rebecca Friedman with Eleanor Grewal for Education Week, [https://www.edweek.org/tm/articles/2011/02/09/sign\\_language.html](https://www.edweek.org/tm/articles/2011/02/09/sign_language.html)
- American Sign Language in the Classroom, what are the benefits? Teacher Inquiry by Christine Lack, <https://ed.psu.edu/pds/teacher-inquiry/2008/lackc.pdf>
- More Teachers Turning to Sign Language to Manage Classrooms by Emma Brown for



- Washington Post, <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/10/15/AR2009101501373.html?noredirect=on>
- Using Sign Language in the Classroom by Rick Morris for Education Oasis, <http://www.educationoasis.com/visitor-resources/articles/sign-language/>
- 9 Useful ASL Signs for the Early Childhood Classroom by Tiny Signs, <https://tinysigns.net/classroom-signs/>
- Teaching Young Children to Sign by Signing Savvy, <https://www.signingsavvy.com/blog/106/Teaching+Young+Children+to+Sign>
- Teaching Hearing Children to Communicate with Sign Language by Signing Time, <https://www.signingtime.com/teaching-hearing-children-to-communicate-with-sign-language/>
- Ways to Introduce Your Kids to Foreign Languages by Grace Hwang Lynch for PBS Parents, <http://www.pbs.org/parents/readinglanguage/articles/introduce-kids-to-foreign-language.html>
- How can young children best learn languages? By Tracey Chapelton for The Voices Magazine as part of the British Council, <https://www.britishcouncil.org/voices-magazine/how-can-young-children-best-learn-languages>
- 7 Foreign Language Vocabulary Games to Banish Boredom from Your Classes by Fluent U Educator Blog, <https://www.fluentu.com/blog/educator/foreign-language-vocabulary-games/>

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## Course Author

**A special thank you to Aurora Tollestrup, B.S. Ed. for developing the curriculum for this topic.**

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## ECE Virtual Classroom Academic Coach

The Virtual Classroom Academic Coach's role is to support the ECE students through the training process. The Virtual Classroom Academic Coach reviews assignment per directions, monitors discussion threads, answers inquiries/emails, monitors student engagement, provides online student support, and regularly collaborates with team members on development. The Virtual Classroom Academic Coach serves as the facilitator and grader, while the Online Educators are the official state approved trainers.

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## Student Support

The best way to reach us is through live student support chat. Look for the Chat with Us bubble on the bottom left corner of the website.



Website: [www.myececlass-social.com](http://www.myececlass-social.com)

E-mail: [info@myececlass.com](mailto:info@myececlass.com)

Phone: (360) 602-0960

### **Student Support Hours**

#### **Chat & Email Support**

Monday - Friday	7 am – 6 pm
Saturday & Sunday	9 am – 6 pm
Holidays (Email Only)	10 am – 4 pm

#### **Phone Support**

Monday - Friday	7 am – 6 pm
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## **Required Assignments**

### **Reading**

The text on each page should be read. When you submit the worksheets, discussion boards, and click on the NEXT PAGE button, it will create a record of your progress moving through each page.

### **Videos**

Watch the videos as you encounter them. If you have trouble with the videos playing, this may require that you update flash player on your computer. Optionally, some students find that if they are having difficulties playing the videos on their computer, they can view them on their phone. There is a link above the videos to view them on YouTube directly. You may wish to save the Youtube link for the video to refer to in the future, or in order to use another device for viewing.

### **Discussion**

The discussion questions are a required part of the course. You may either post on the discussion board where you are contributing to the thread with other students. Alternately, you have the option of clicking on the link above the discussion board and submitting your response on a worksheet form. The ECE Virtual Classroom Coach will be tracking your submission of the discussion board assignments as part of meeting the learning outcomes for the course.

### **Worksheets**

Check for Understanding worksheets are provided throughout each course. The worksheets allow opportunities to reflect on the course materials as you are progressing through the training. Watch your email in-box for trainer feedback. You may not receive feedback for every single assignment, depending on how quickly you are moving through the course. Instead, you may receive an email letting you know that your work was done well, with a certificate



attached. If you need guidance, the trainer or the academic coach will be sending you emails with feedback with instructions for resubmission. Certificates will not be issued if worksheets are skipped, incomplete, or filled in with inappropriate responses. If you need assistance, we have student support available via Live Student Support Chat 7 days a week (Mon.-Fri. 7 am-8 pm and Sat.-Sun. 9am-6pm PST).

## Quizzes

The end of course quizzes are primarily multiple choice and true or false questions, with occasional open-ended questions. 70% or better is required to pass the quiz. You can review the course materials and retake the quiz as many times as needed to pass. Automated emails are sent to you confirming that you have submitted the worksheets and quizzes and provide you with a link to resume at the next page.

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## Optional Course Items

The items below are offered in each course as options. Optional means that you have the choice to utilize them, or not.

## Optional Resources for Further Study

We have included a wealth of resource links for you to explore and further your knowledge about each topic.

*The resource links provided in our website are provided solely for your convenience and may assist you in locating other useful information on the Internet. When you click on these links you will leave our website and will be redirected to another website. These websites are not under the control of Successful Solutions Training in Child Development. Successful Solutions Training in Child Development is not responsible for the content of linked third party websites. We are not affiliated with these third parties nor do we endorse or guarantee their products, services, website content, etc. We make no representation or warranty regarding the accuracy of the information contained in the linked websites. We suggest that you always verify the information obtained from linked websites before acting upon this information.*

## Parking Lot

The Parking Lot is offered as an optional opportunity to interact with the trainer about a question that you may have about the course topic. If you do not have a question, it is not necessary to fill out this form, it is not required. If you choose to submit a question to the trainer, she will respond to you by email. Be sure to watch your email in-box.

You can always leave a message for student support on our Live Chat on the bottom left corner of the website, any time of day or night. If we are not available, we will respond by email as soon as possible.





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## Certificates

When you submit the evaluation form, that prompts the academic coach to review all of your work. We will evaluate your work to assure that you have met the learning outcomes. Once that assessment is complete, you will receive your certificate by email. [Click Here](#) for a sample certificate. (This certificate is an example. The student certificate may vary slightly). Certificates are prepared 7 days a week between 7 am and 7 pm PST. In most cases, you should receive your certificate by email within a few hours after you submit the evaluation form, or first thing the next morning.

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## State Training Approval

This training may, or may not, meet annual training requirements in your state. Please provide us with your state, and any State registry ID number on the evaluation form, and if we are able to record your completed training with your state, we will. In some cases, for annual state credit, you will need to submit the certificate to the appropriate registry and they may or may not award annual credit. Providing a State Registry number to us does not guarantee that your state will approve the training for annual continuing education credit.

### The following states have *pre-approved* our courses:

- Washington State DEL MERIT Trainer: Kimberlee Turner, MS Ed #4062747253
- Texas Approved Master Trainer: Kimberlee Turner, MS Ed #34928
- Illinois Organization Approval Number B102312
- Ohio (Entity OIN # 21084413)
- North Carolina Organization Approval
- Utah Organization Approval for Online Career Ladder Courses
- Vermont Organization Approval

Our courses may be accepted many states that do not require pre-approval.

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## Technical Requirements

- Laptop or PC
- Most students are able to use mobile devices such as tablets to complete courses. However, each device is different, and an individual's skill level with the device may determine their success with using a mobile device.
- Recommended web browser: Google Chrome
  - Microsoft Edge, Safari and Firefox are other acceptable browsers.



- Internet Explorer is no longer supported by Microsoft, and you may have issues if you use it to take training.
- Operating System
  - Make sure you're using a current operating system (for example, Windows 10).
  - Outdated operating systems may cause technical difficulties.
- Internet Speed
  - Slow internet speed may impact loading time.
- Videos may require Adobe Flash Player.

Adobe Reader is required to open PDF files. Download Adobe Reader can be downloaded free <https://acrobat.adobe.com/us/en/acrobat/pdf-reader.html>

