

SWINE FLU SIGNS

For Babies and Small Children

By

KIDDISIGN

PANDEMIC EDITION 2009

American and Canadian Version



Early Communication for All Babies and Small Children

Copyrighted Material

Copyright © by Yvonne K. Lavelle and Kiddisign, July 2009
Cover and interior photos: Yvonne K. Lavelle and Kiddisign, Big Stock Photos
Sign Illustrations: M. Morris (owned by Yvonne K. Lavelle, Kiddisign)
New sign illustrations: Yvonne K. Lavelle, Kiddisign

Distributed throughout the world but particularly in the United States, Canada and United Kingdom by Kiddisign.

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced by any mechanical, photographic, or electronic process, or in the form of a phonographic recording; nor may it be stored in a retrieval system, transmitted, or otherwise be copied for public or private use – other than for fair use, as the nursery rhymes are universal – without prior written permission of Kiddisign.

The intent of the author is only to offer information of a general nature to help you in your quest to teach to your child/or a nursery to teach to their children/or childcarer to teach to their charges, baby and child signing as a means of additional communication. In the event you use any of the information in this book for yourself, which is your constitutional right, the author, Yvonne K. Lavelle, Kiddisign and M. Morris assume no responsibility for your actions or for any other actions which may present themselves. If you believe your baby or child is suffering from swine flu symptoms, then always follow the guidelines set out by your particular government. This special edition is to teach the signs of possible symptoms to the general public in order that they can give their child additional communication methods and it is not to be used as a tool to diagnose swine flu.

The moral right of Yvonne K. Lavelle to be identified as the author of this work has been asserted.

1st Edition, July 2009
Copyrighted Material

Foreword

Yvonne K. Lavelle has been teaching Baby Signing (also for small children) as a means of additional communication since 2004, to parents of babies and small children and day care centers.

She has compiled this Special Edition in addition to her already published book called 'Baby Signing by Kiddisign' to give parents the opportunity of teaching their baby or small child simple signs to show what they are feeling. Yvonne believes that this edition is not a whole solution to diagnosing swine flu symptoms – you should telephone your Medic or Swine Flu Service if you are concerned about your child's health - but is a way forward in assisting very young children in communicating to you that they are unwell.

Baby and Child signing is taught through repetition. You can start signing with very young babies and toddlers but the most effective age for learning is from 5 months old. There is no age limit to learning this type of signing and the older a child becomes, the quicker they imitate the sign and make the connection to the word and action. Speech and signs are communicated together so that the child will create a 'mind-word-picture' situation in their minds and their speech will be accelerated rather than delayed.

The idea came from an interpreter called Joseph Garcia in 1986. He realised that hearing babies and toddlers were picking up his signs. It has taken almost 20 years of research, but now signing is integrated into the nursery curriculums around the world. The research has shown that there is a reduction of crying and frustration in the nursery or day care centers and also at home, accelerated verbal language development, babies/toddlers can clearly communicate specific thoughts to parents/carers and vice versa, more positive interest in books and the children love learning signs to nursery rhymes and stories.

Once a child is talking, they may still want to use signs if they are struggling with a word or want to communicate more privately with parents or carers.

The research completed on Baby Signing started in 1987 by Joseph Garcia. Recently, Mr. Garcia said at a conference that new research is showing that signs are picked up from 0 months onwards!

Between 1987 and 2009, Dr. Linda Acredolo and Dr. Susan Goodwin, University of California at Davis, studied with small babies through to 8 years of age, and now have over 20 years of research papers, showing that in babies who sign, there is greater verbal language development, higher IQ's, a baby will share it's world more, increases parent-child bond and eases frustration.

In 2007, Dr. Gwyneth Doherty-Sneddon, Stirling University in Scotland, found that it helped very small children to communicate, eased child and parent frustration, and helped toddlers develop socially acceptable behaviour.

Why Sign if your child is hearing?

From the moment babies are born, they start to communicate by using sound and natural gestures.

This special edition and Kiddisign's Baby Signing book teaches you to sign in context and, in a child-like way, to help build on these gestures.

As the baby develops, she/he will then use both speech and signs as methods of communication. If the child becomes frustrated or has not learned to speak a certain word, they will use a sign, otherwise they will use speech first.

The vital connection between you and a baby or child depends on this communication. They 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 to try and read their mind!

The muscles that allow speech to form take time to develop and this frustrates the child as it has many specific needs and thoughts to express.

One way for your baby or small child to express his/her thoughts, is to use simple hand movements to communicate while the specific muscles for speech are forming.

Signs are always shown in context with speech and so speech is accelerated rather than inhibited. Speech would only be inhibited if signs were used instead.

Again, for speaking children, they are learning a new language and can help teach any younger siblings or communicate with any hard of hearing or deaf child too.



Babies Signing 'Eat'

How to use this booklet

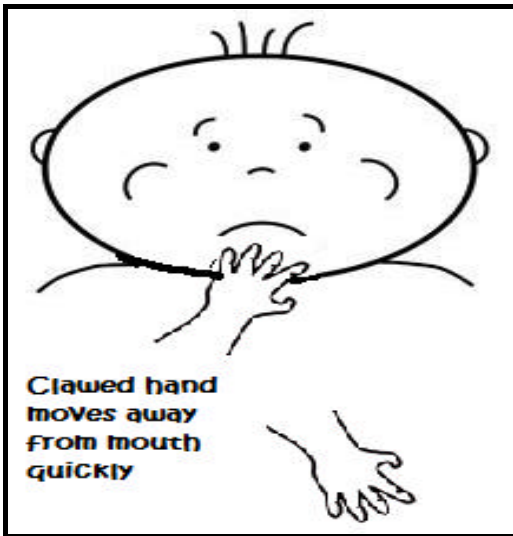
This booklet is a special edition for helping your baby or young child to communicate they are feeling unwell – we have also included some other helpful signs. For more signs on other subjects, then please refer to ‘Baby Signing by Kiddisign’ in addition to this booklet.

1. Always use the sign and say the word together e.g. hug/cuddle – sign and say cuddle, then the action, then repeat the sign and word after the action.
2. Use lots of repetition and over emphasise the signing procedure. Your child may only use the ‘sign’ when they really need something so be patient. A younger child of, say, 5 months old, will take a few weeks to sign back.
3. Sign the word, before, during and after an action, always in the context of the action i.e. when giving food, sign ‘eat’ first, then food, then sign again.
4. Make eye contact while you sign and say the word.
5. You can use a teddy bear to teach the signs for pain, etc. e.g. Teddy hurts his head and it’s sore – show the sign for ‘pain’. Babies teething will tend to hold their mouth while they’re teething – this is an excellent opportunity to teach ‘pain’.
6. The sign for ‘medicine’ is usually used before, during and after giving, say, Calpol or other child medicine. The baby learns, just like in no. 5, that communicating this way quickly relieves them of pain or they get comfort quicker – the result – a happier baby. Some people find the sign for ‘medicine’ controversial but a young baby or small child does not understand the concept of mis-using this sign. They are more interested in being helped.
7. The sign for ‘hot’ can be used firstly via food – show them the sign and say the food is too ‘hot’. Your child will then connect to this sign and be able to interpret it when they are feeling too ‘hot’ or you can use this method with ‘cold’ too!
8. Another way of teaching signing is reading books with your baby/or child and signing the pictures as you go along.
9. If you see your child using a part-sign, then reiterate the sign until they can fully show you their needs. They may still continue to only use the simplified sign, which is fine – as long as your family understand what your child is communicating to them.
10. Get the whole family to join in with the signing but give them the simple, necessary signs to begin with!
11. Have fun with signing and use this booklet as a good start to Baby and Child Signing. Kiddisign’s main book uses nursery rhymes to teach the signs for other subjects (please note most of the signs for unwell are contained in this booklet).

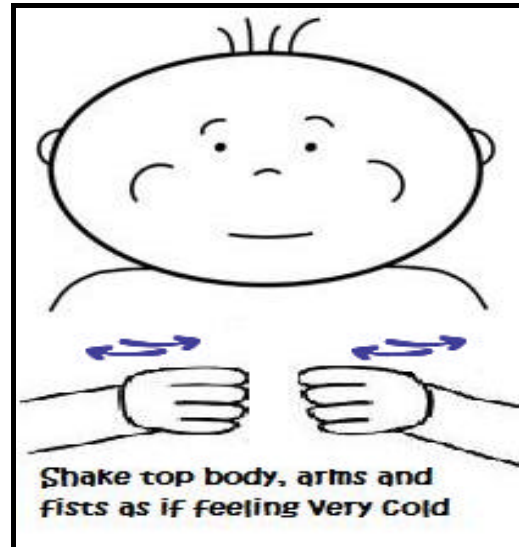
Signs to Teach

Date

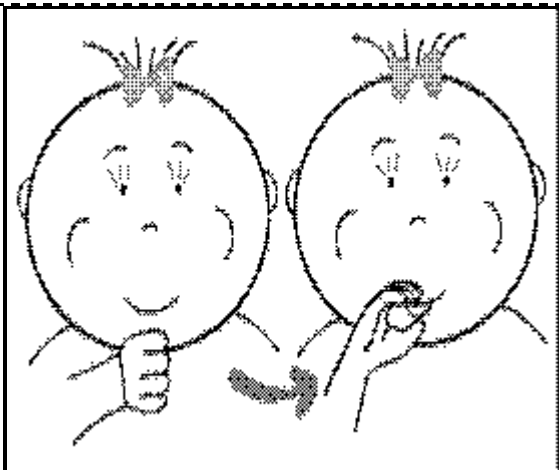
Date



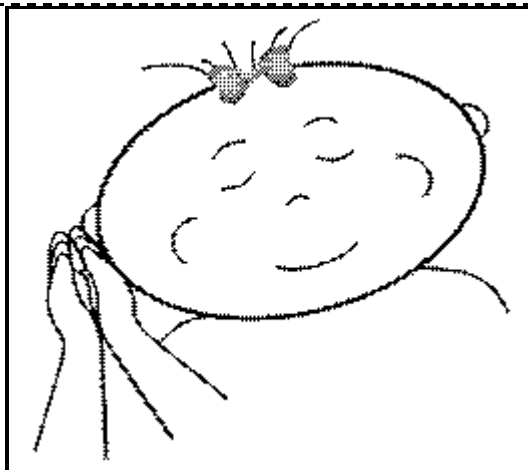
Hot



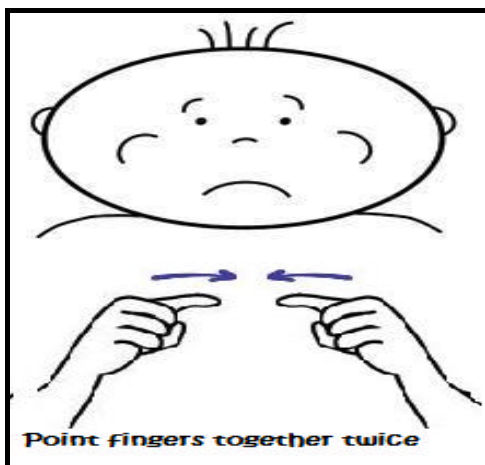
Cold/Chills



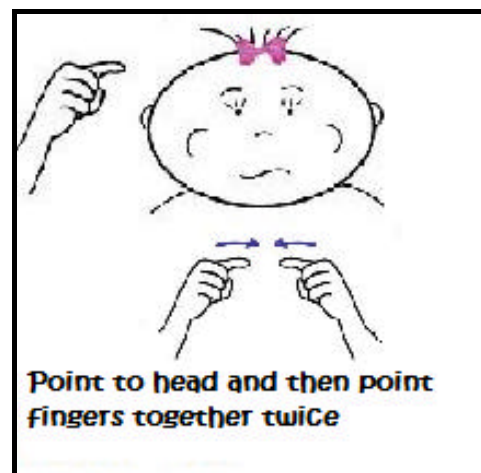
Drink/Water



Tired/Sleep



Pain

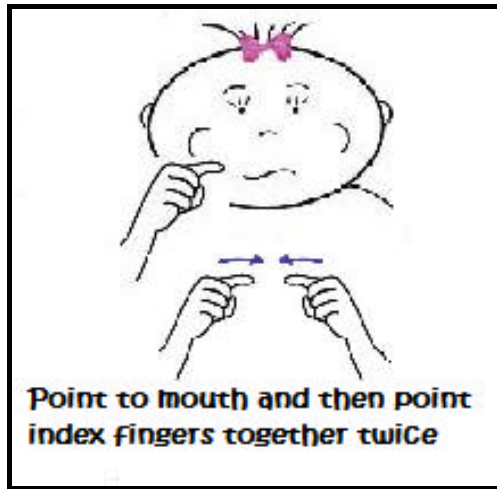


Sore Head

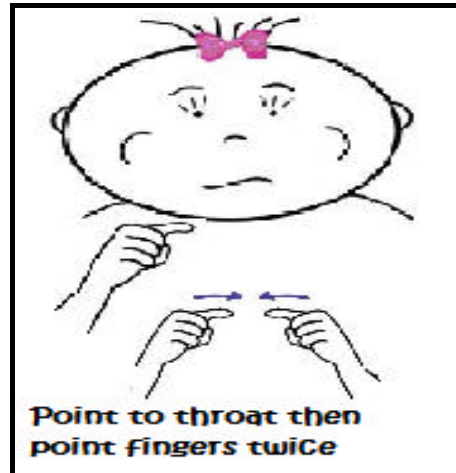
Signs to Teach

Date

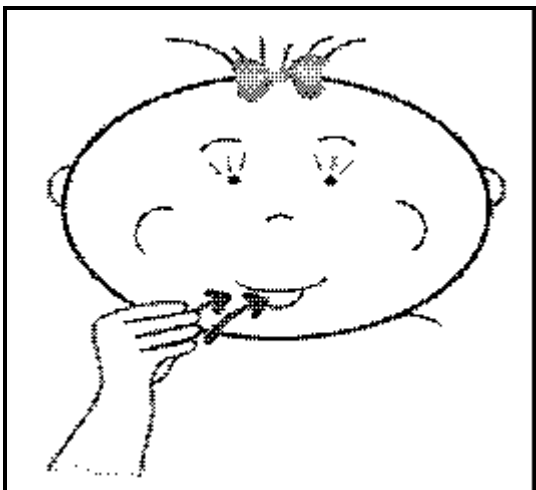
Date



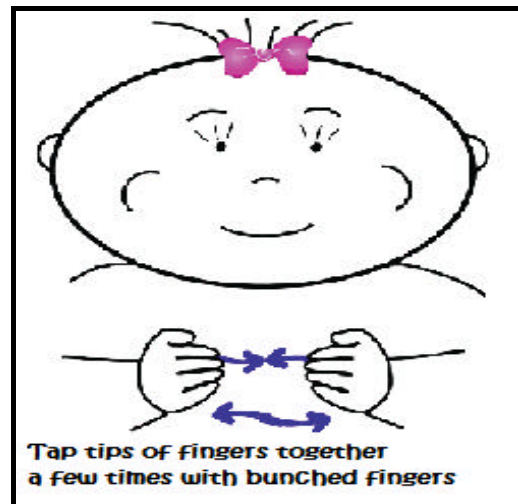
Sore Gums



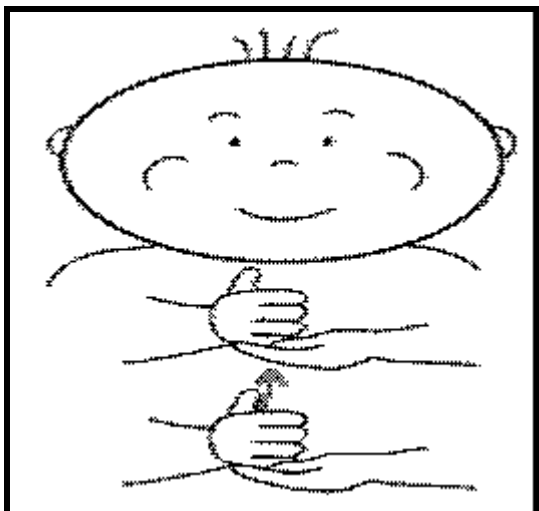
Sore Throat



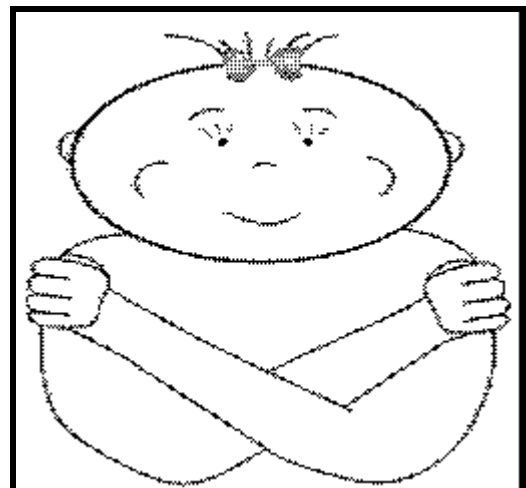
Eat



More

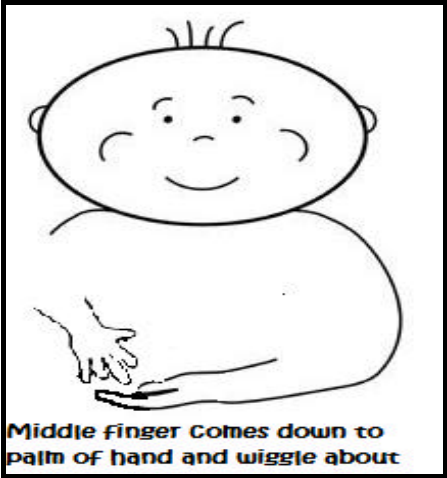
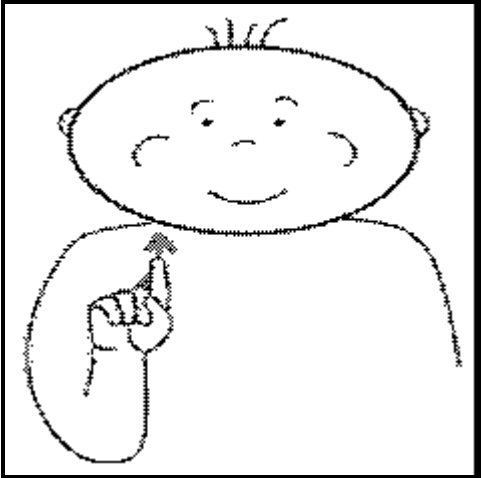
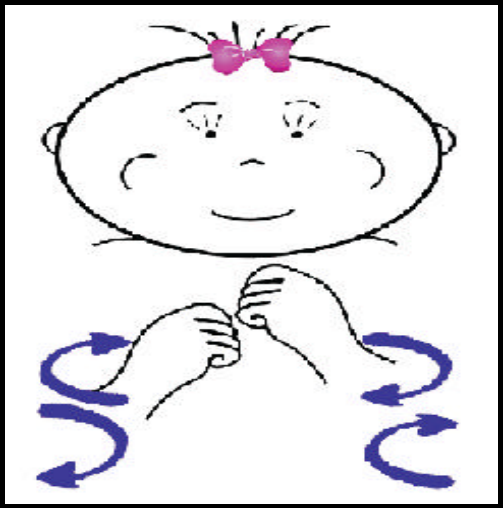
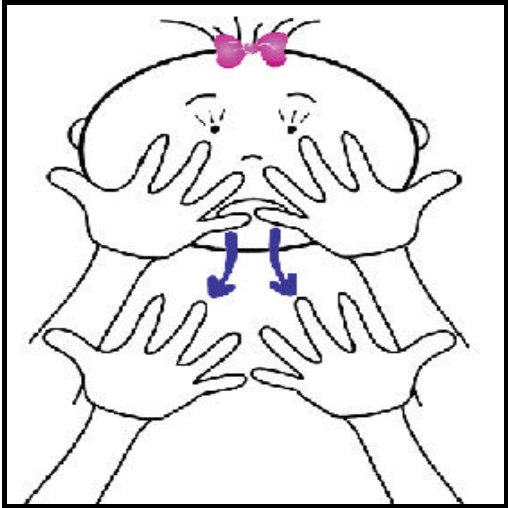
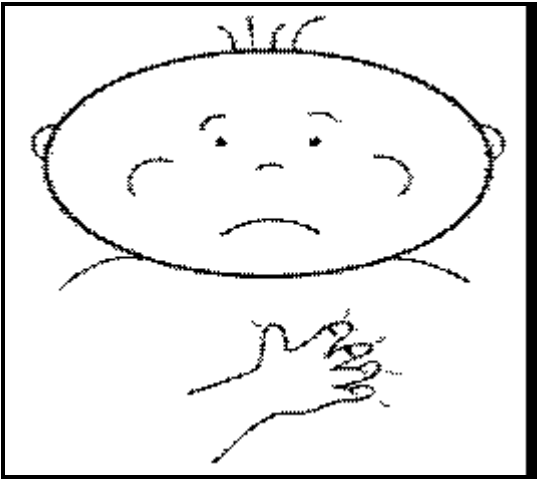
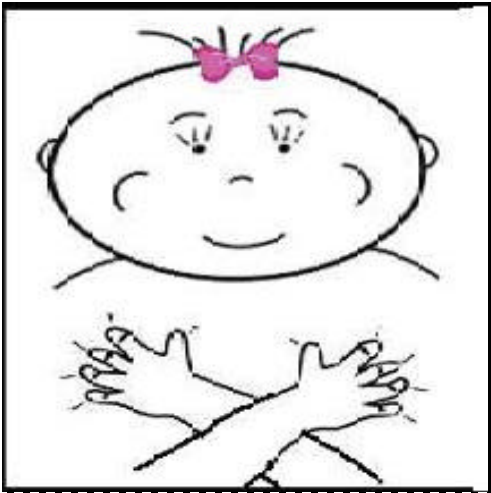


Help



Hug

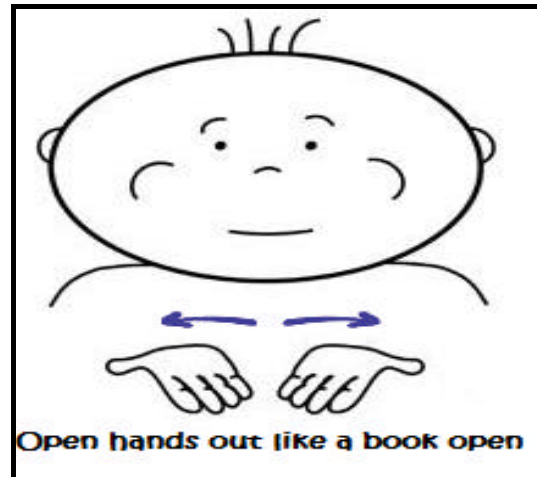
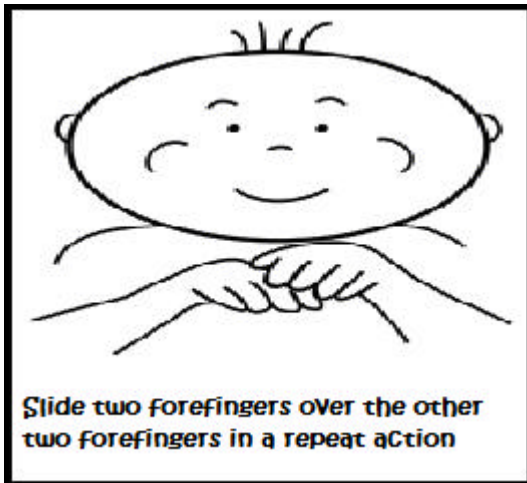
Signs to Teach

	Date		Date
 <p>Middle finger comes down to palm of hand and wiggle about</p>			
Medicine		Up	
			
Change/Diaper		Sad	
			
Scared/Frightened		Teddy Bear	

Signs to Teach

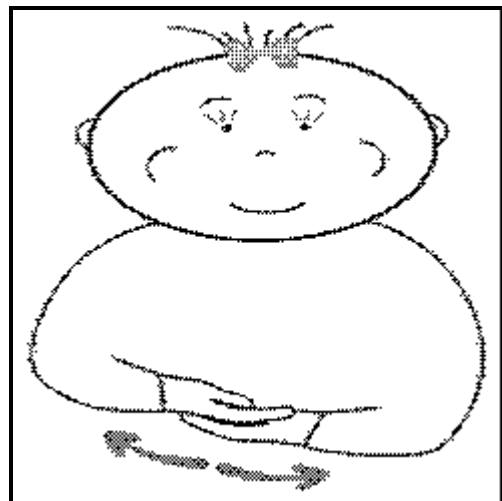
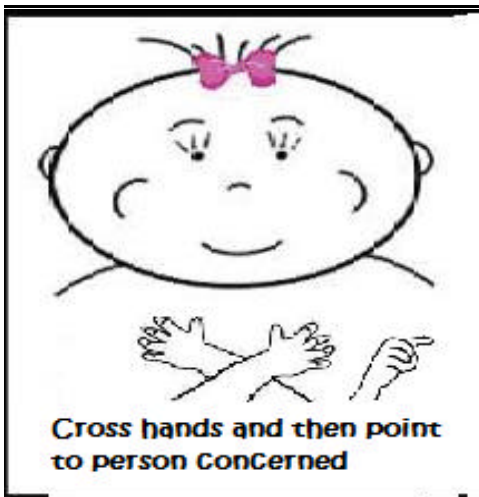
Date

Date



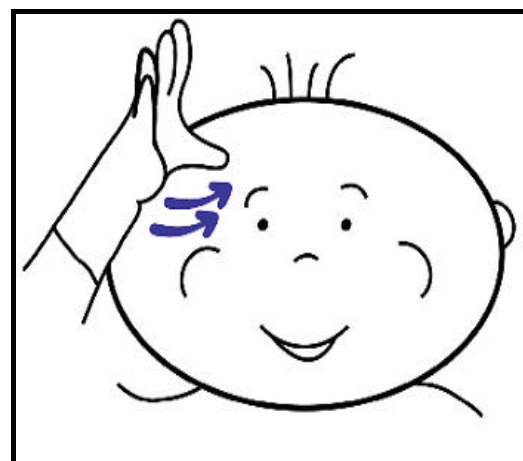
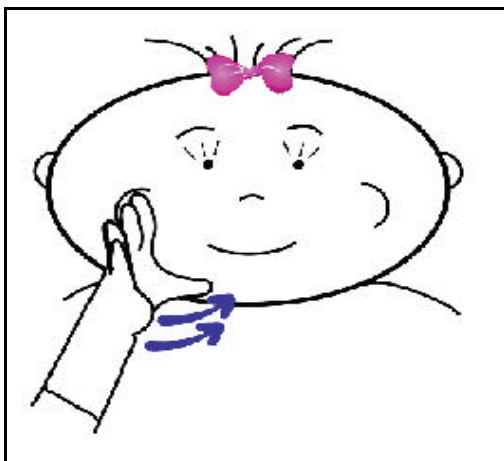
Sit/Chair

Book



I Love You

Baby



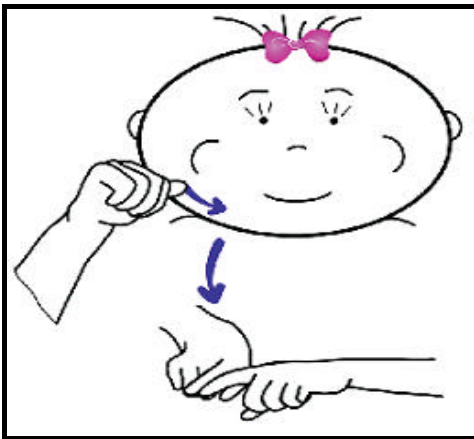
Mommy

Daddy

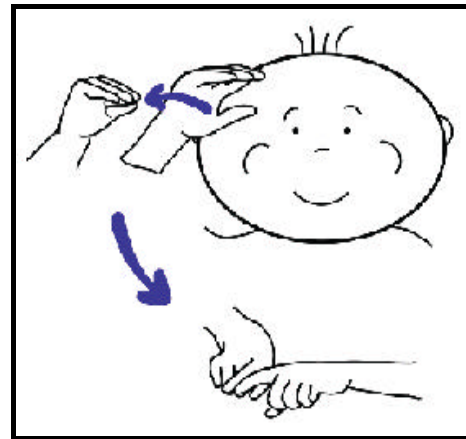
Signs to Teach

Date

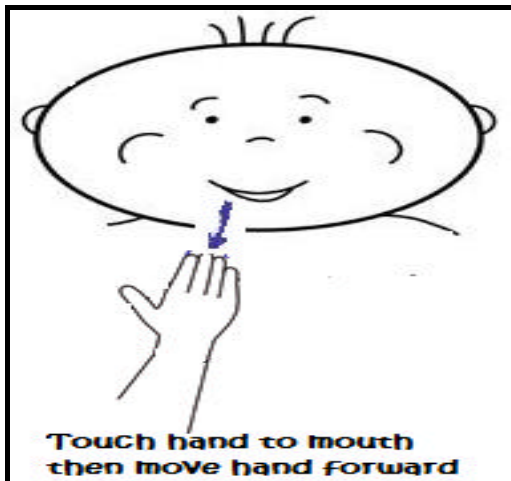
Date



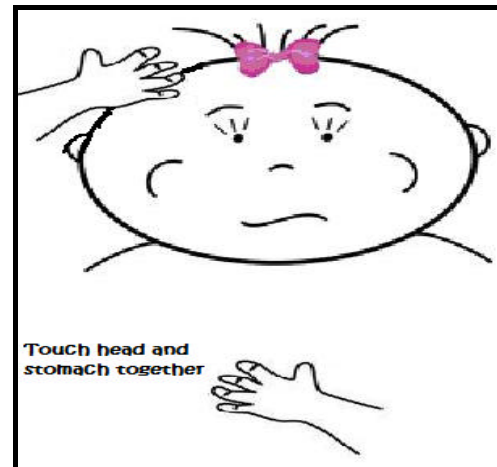
Sister



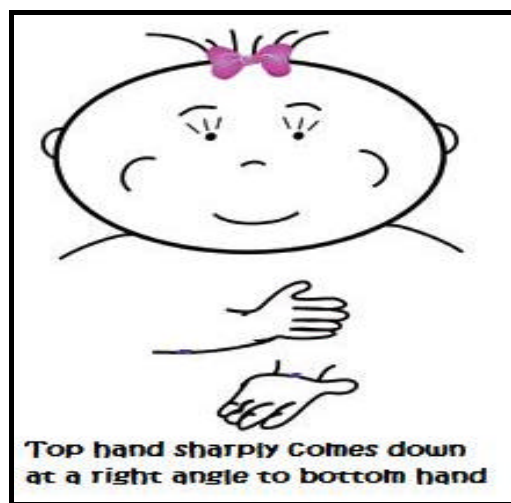
Brother



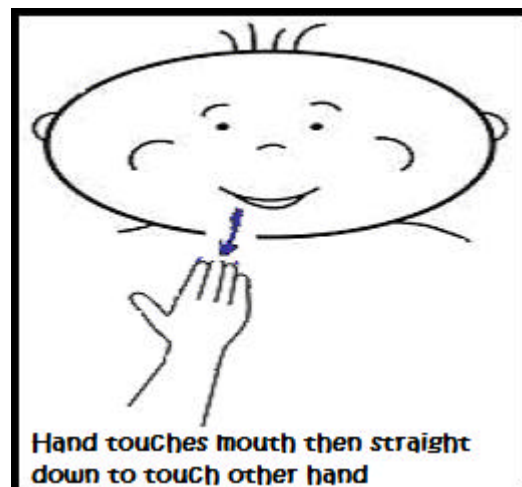
Thank You



Ill/Unwell



Stop (No)



Good