

6 Reasons to Use Sign Language with your Child



1. Signing uses both sides of the brain.

The right side of the brain is used for visual-spatial reasoning and long term memory. The left side is used for processing language. When you are signing with hearing children, you are reinforcing their existing language, and also giving them another way to express a concept they already know. [link](#)

2. It increases your child's vocabulary.

Using sign language increases children's vocabulary in a relatively pressure-free manner. Research shows hearing children who used sign language in their preschool classes scored better on vocabulary tests and attained higher reading levels than their non-signing peers. [link](#)

3. It reduces frustration and tantrums.

Understandably, children who are not able to speak get frustrated when you don't know what they want. A young child is able to communicate through sign language with his hands before his vocal chords are developed enough to talk.

4. Using American Sign Language (ASL) allows your child to communicate with hearing impaired people.

With an increasing aging population there will be more and more people relying on American Sign Language as a means of communication. Teaching your child signs from a young age will allow her to communicate with her hearing impaired grandparents and friends at school.

5. Signing speeds spoken language development.

By giving your child the skills to communicate early, you are encouraging her to communicate. According to Wide Eyed Learning's research using the Signing Smart method, the average 8 month old will have no spoken words, while the average child using American Sign Language will have 5 signs and 1 word. At 12 months the difference increases to 3-5 spoken words for a non-signing child and 25 signs and 16 words for a signing child. [link](#)

6. We've got fun [Kindermusik Sign & Sing](#) classes you can join.

There are classes beginning next week at both our Cambridge and Waterloo locations. The classes are educational, fun and completely hands on for parents and children, ages 6 months to 3 years. In 10 weeks, you will learn more than 100 ASL signs you can use with your child! Join us by calling 519-622-5702 to register or clicking [here](#).