

American Sign Language has been used as the language of the hearing impaired for years. A combination of fingerspelling, body gestures, facial expressions, and specific sign names, ASL opens wide the door for communication between persons who experience any sort of language processing challenge. Children too young to speak, stroke victims, cerebral palsy patients - American Sign Language basic signs offer a means for expression of needs and feelings.

Sign language is also recommended for children with autism and Asberger's as a middle step for processing language. Many of those affected cannot get the idea from their minds into words, so they are encouraged to draw and to sign as a middle step. Actually, sign language is a perfect tool for any child with a language processing disorder including apraxia and Down's syndrome. One of my students has an auditory processing disorder. She has difficulty retrieving any meaning from auditory messages. She also has trouble memorizing. However, if she DOES something with the words, she remembers. She remembers songs that she does an ice skating routine to, and poems, songs, The Lord's Prayer, etc. that she signs.

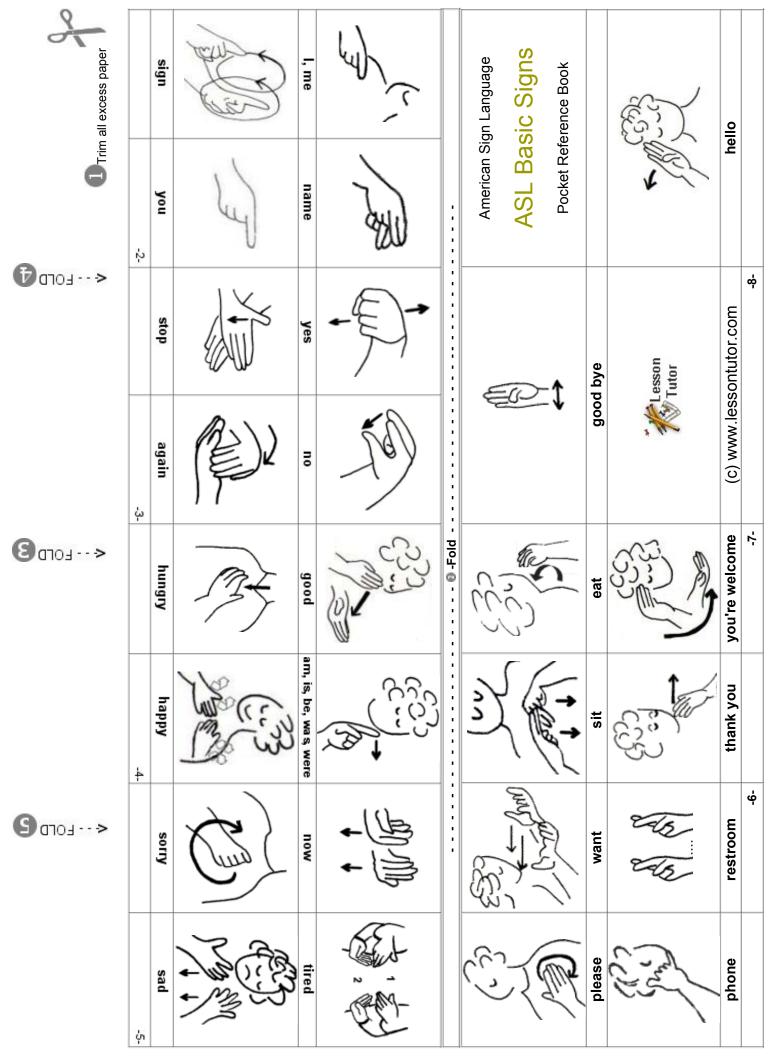
Have fun with this make your own flashcard set and ignite an enthusiasm for the learning of new language. Words and concepts pictured include: hello, I/me, name, please, sign, you, yes, no, thank you, you're welcome, stop, again, good, am/was/were/..., hungry, eat, happy, sad, sorry, now, sit, want, phone, restroom, tired, good bye.

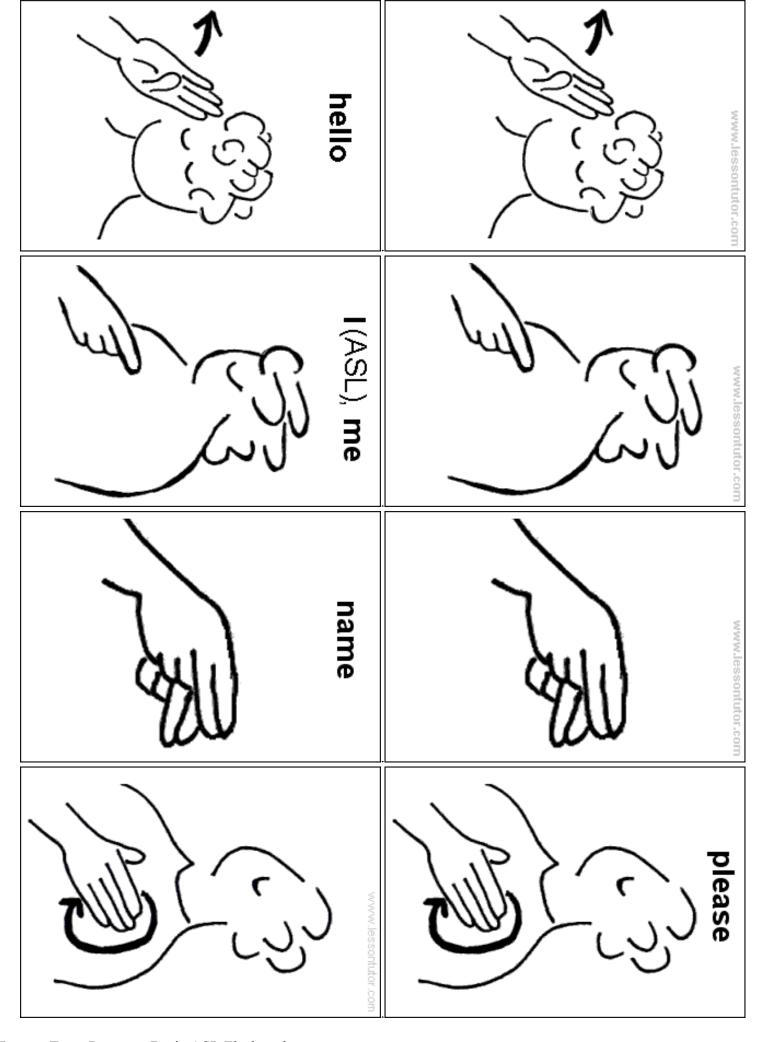
About the Author

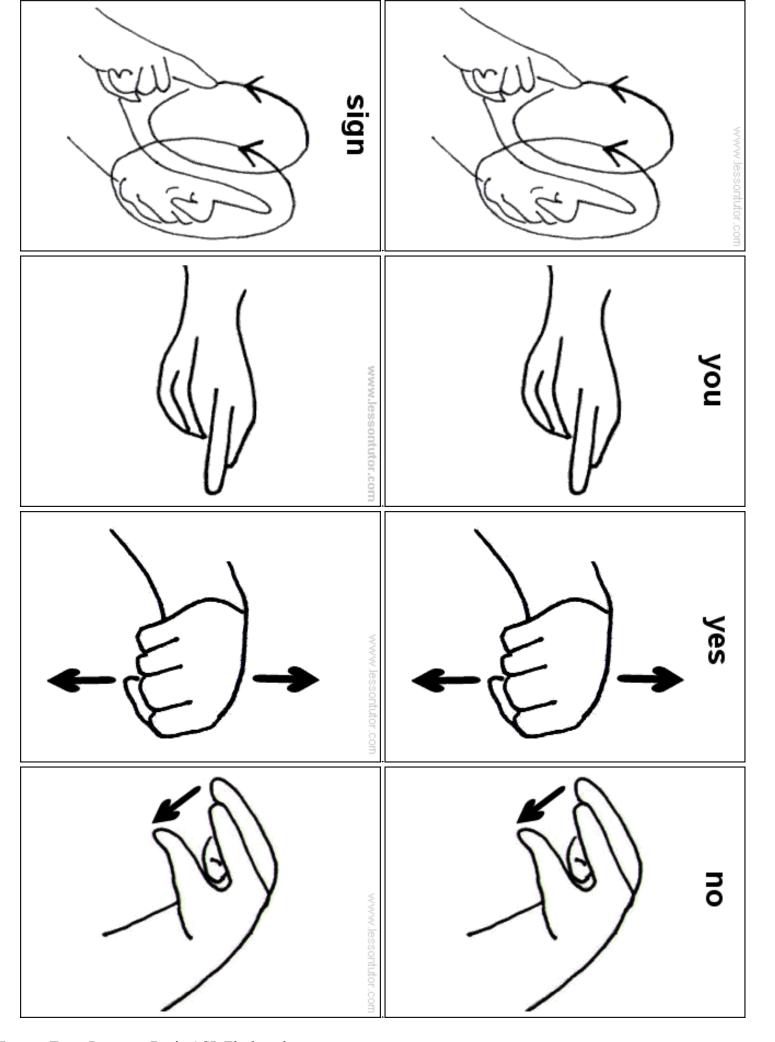
Elaine Ernst Schneider entered the classroom as a special education teacher in the 1970's. Since then, she has taught mainstream English Grammar, Literature, music K-12, deaf education, psychology, Algebra, creative writing, social studies, psychology, law, and science in both public and private schools. In the 1990's, Elaine created an adaptive education program and implemented a student teacher program in a cooperative effort with the University of West Florida. While there, she opted to take the masters level courses in the area of learning disabilities. Today, she writes curriculum for several companies, as well as freelance articles on education.

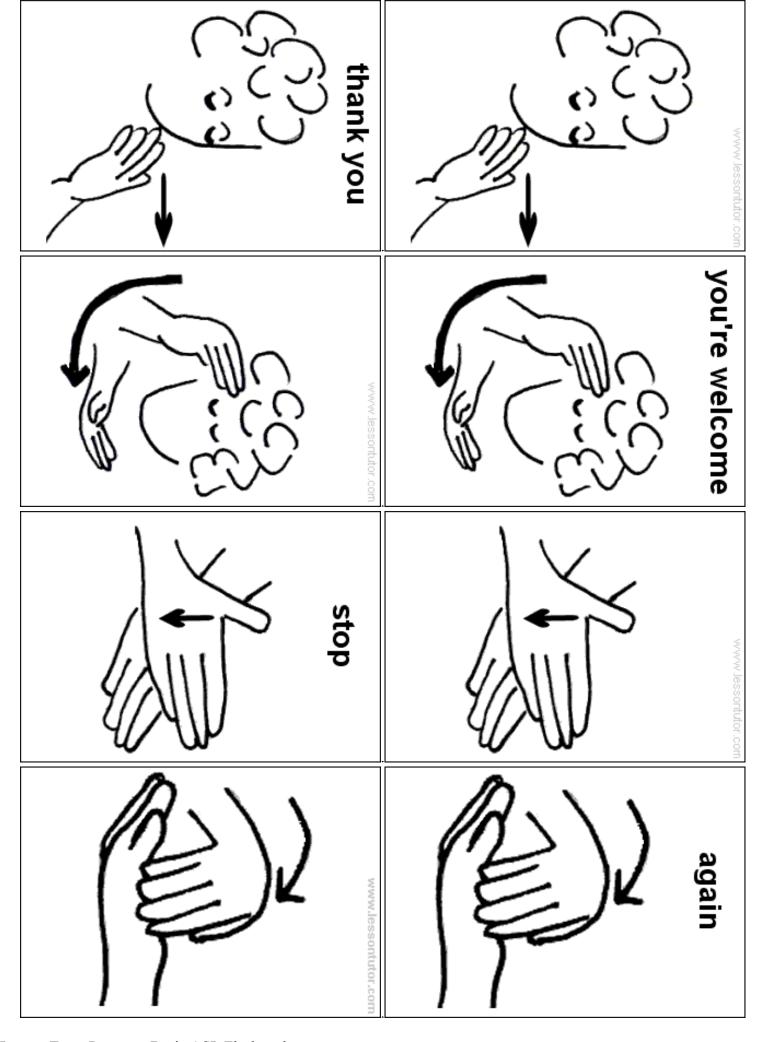
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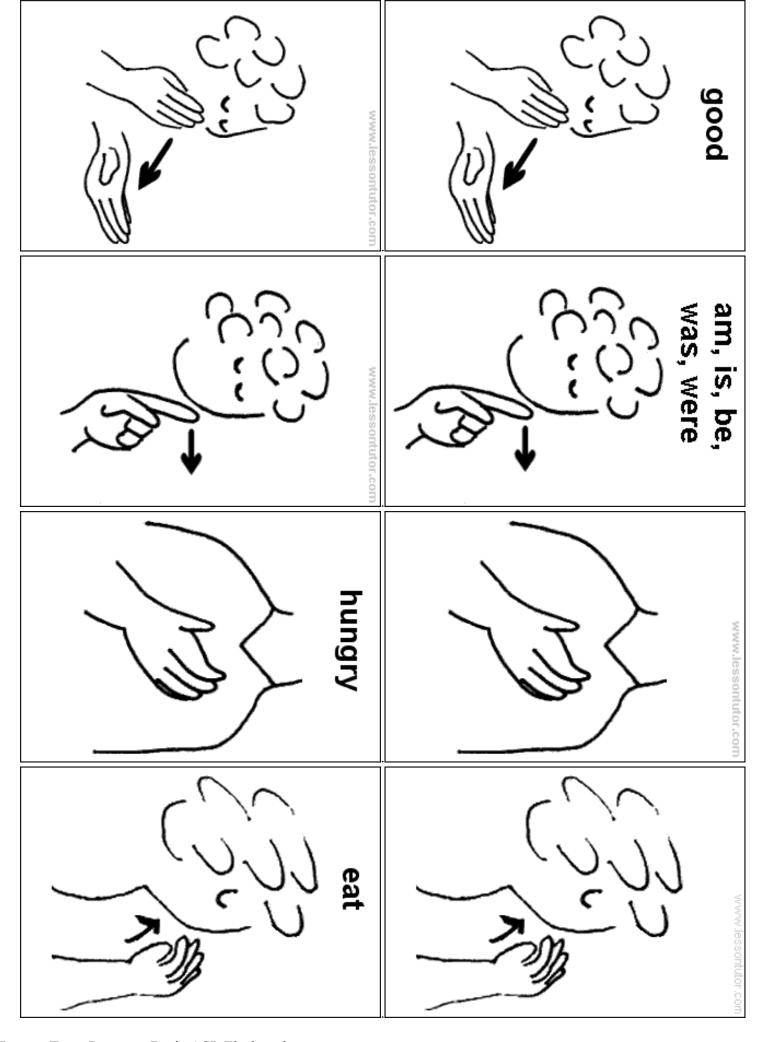
again	Slightly bend the right "b" hand as you bring it tips first to rest in the extended left palm. The motion should look like you are "putting" something into the left hand. If you wish to indicate that you have done something several times, tap fingers on left palm more than once.
am/was/were	Touch "d" hand to chin and then straight forward, keeping the tilt of the hand sideways, palm facing to the left.
eat	Touching all fingertips to the thumb tip, move the hand in that position to the lips, as if putting food in the mouth.
good	Make the "thank you" sign, but let the back of the right hand fall to rest in the palm of the extended left hand. (The only difference between "thank you" and "good" is that the sign for "good" ends in the palm of the left hand, while the "thank you" sign finishes in mid-air.)
good bye	Wave "good bye"!
happy	Use both hands in open position, touching palms to the chest in a down/up motion in two short movements.
hello	Place hand on forward as if to salute (but not as rigid). Move hand outward, ending up with palm facing forward in the air just a few inches from the forehead.
hungry	Use right "c" hand and run the hand down the center of the chest in a downward motion, touching the fingertips to the body as if outlining where the esophagus lies within the chest cavity.
I/me	Point to self, mid chest
name	Gently tap the right "h" hand on top of the left "h" hand. Tap once for one name and twice for more than one name.
no	Using the right hand, close the thumb and first two fingers together once.
now	Using open "y" hands (all fingers extended) palms up, make a single downward motion 6 - 8 inches in front of the chest area.
phone	Hold a "y" hand to the side of the head, much as you would a telephone receiver.
please	Use right hand, flat, fingers together. Rub in a circular motion mid chest.
restroom	Move the "r" hand left to right in mid-air in front and slightly to the right of the body, making the "r" twice for the two "r"s in RestRoom.
sad	Spread fingers and place hands several inches in front of the face, palms in . Move hands in a downward position to indicate a flow of tears.
sign	Using "d" hands, rotate in a circular motion toward the body. Hands should not be parallel - keep one hand up when the other is down and vice versa.
sit	Make a single downward motion with the right "h" hand to "sit" on the left hand's "h." Both hands should have palms down.
sorry	Move "s" hand in a circular motion mid chest.
stop	Bring right "b" hand down firmly to a perpendicular position on the extended left palm. The "little finger" side of the right hand touches the palm of the left hand.
thank you	With open hand, touch lips, and then extend hand outward, keeping palm facing the face (as if throwing a thank you kiss).
tired	Place fingertips of bent "c" hands on upper chest. Move hands in a downward motion, pivoting the hands so that each finger touches the chest as the hands rotate into the final position where fingertips point upward, no longer touching the body.
yes	Using right "s" hand, move the wrist to make the "s" fist go down, up, then down again, as if it is someone's head shaking a "yes" acknowledgment.
you	Point in the direction of where someone is located. If no one is there, point to an "imaginary" person.
you're	Touch forehead with the index finger of the "w" hand, then touch chest with the wrist of that
welcome	same "w" hand. The motion will be somewhat semi-circular, as if you are inviting or welcoming someone to be close to you.
want	Extend both hands forward, palms up. Move both open curved hands toward the chest several times, as if drawing in the desired object.

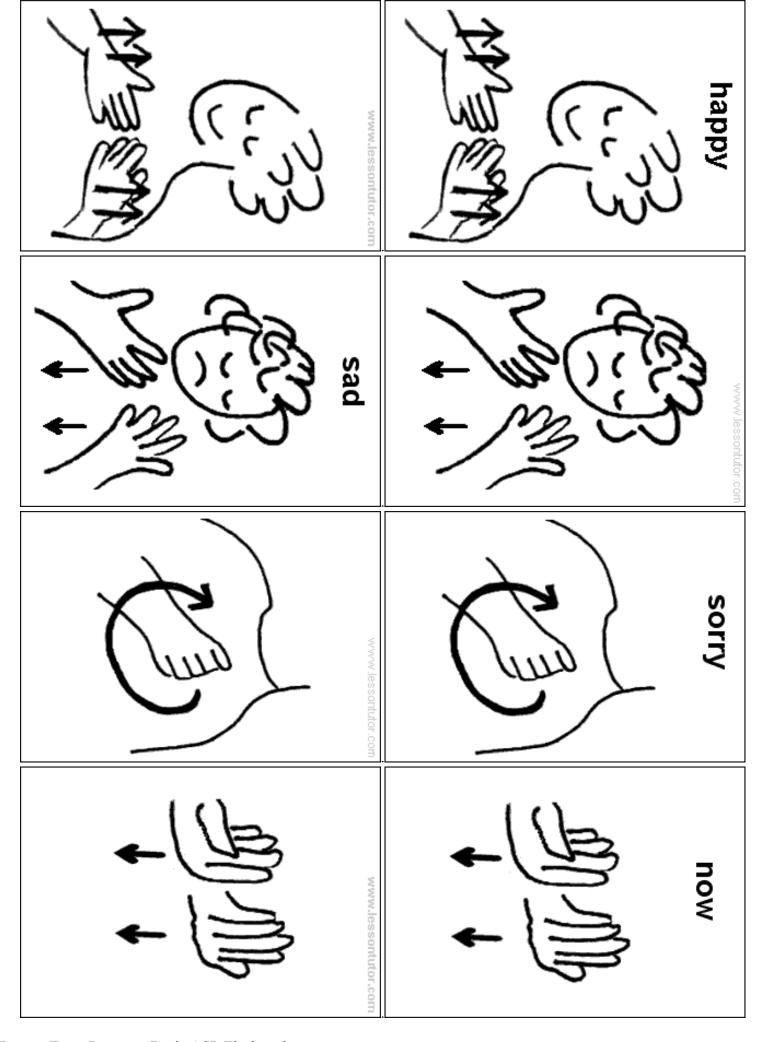


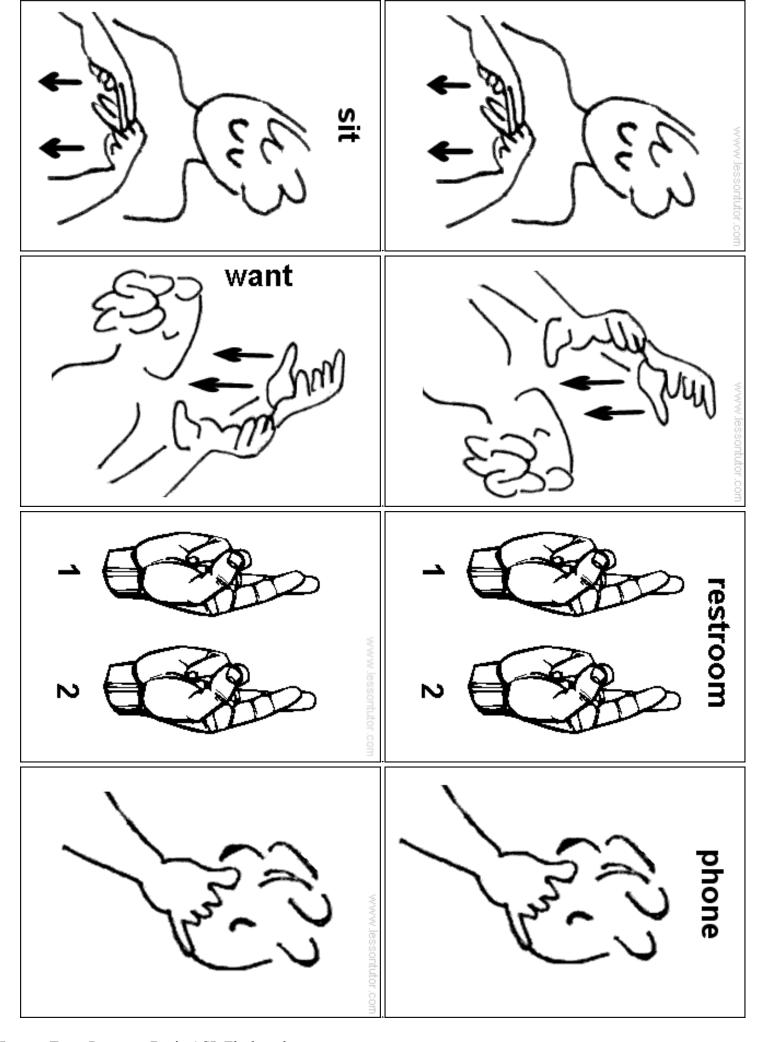


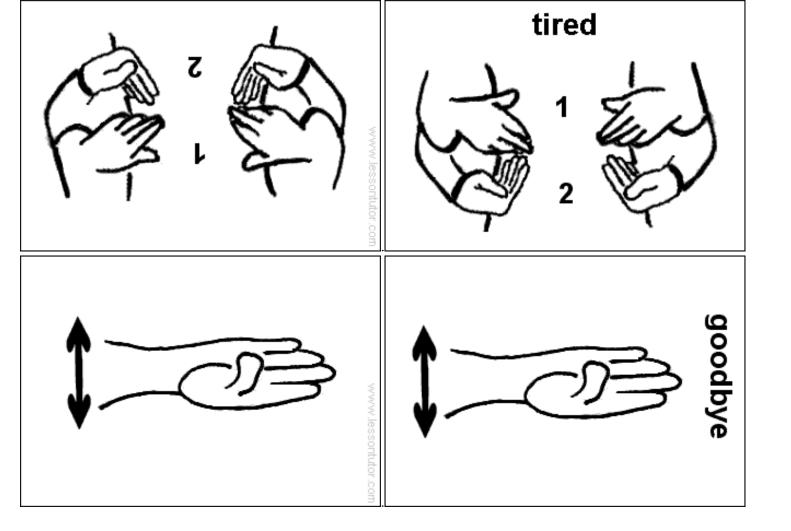












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- O Little Town of Bethlehem Adapted for Signs
- What Child is This Adapted for ASL
- O Canada! Adapted for ASL
- The Pledge of Allegiance and God Bless America Adapted for ASL Signs
- Star Spangled Banner Adapted for Signs
- Girl Guide Promise and Law Adapted for ASL Signs
- Boy Scouts Oath and Pledges Adapted for Signs
- Boy Scout Law Adapted for Signs
- Classic Camp Songs Adapted for ASL
- Amazing Grace Adapted for ASL
- Were You There? and He is Lord Easter Songs Adapted for Signs
- Who Built the Ark? Noah, Noah Adapted for Signs
- I'll Fly Away Adapted for ASL
- The Lord's Prayer (SE) and the 10 Commandments (ASL)
- 23rd Psalm Adapted for ASL
- Sunday Songs and Prayers Adapted for ASL
- Sunday Songs and Pledges Adapted for ASL
- Introducing ASL To Health Care Professionals