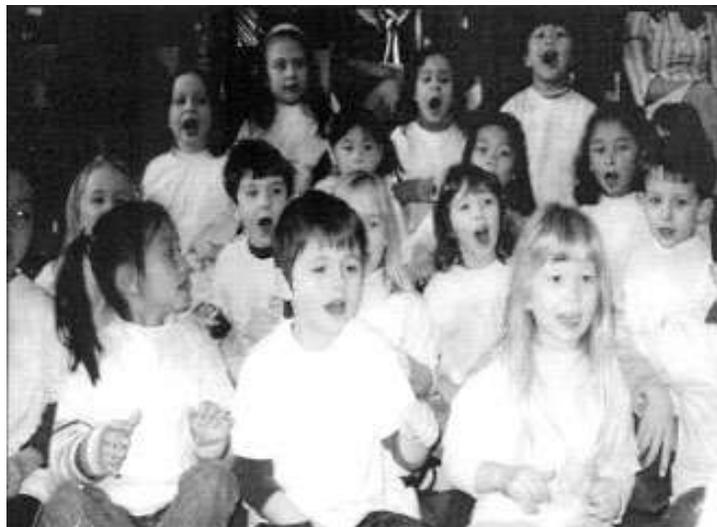


Discover the Magic of Signing Songs Enhancing All Children's Language and Literacy



Signing songs helps build an active, joyful community of learners. These children are performing signed songs at a multicultural school assembly.



Multisensory ABC and phonics immersion with sign language accelerates knowledge of the alphabetical system. These children are signing and signing *b*, "b" bear from *The ABC Sign Language and Phonics Song*, by Nellie Edge.



Children love to practice the sign language ABCs during transition times and while lining up for lunch, recess or the end of the day. They proudly practice at home. (For ABC cards, see *Favorite Sign Language Resources*.)



Children's memory for the spelling sequence of words is dramatically improved through singing, signing and fingerspelling. Kinesthetically forming letters using fingerspelling improves recall – especially for the hardest-to-reach children.

Fingerspelling helps with sounding out words: Children can feel rhyming in their hand even if they can't hear it. (c-a-t, h-a-t, f-a-t)

Discover the Magic of Signing Songs Keep Children Engaged and Focused



After children have learned the sign language for a song or rhyme, they can also read the words. This boy is reading the Yo Tengo Un Gato/ I Have A Cat Little Book. **Sign language provides a powerful bridge between English and Spanish.**



Sign language is a great tool for class management. It keeps our young friends engaged and focused. Children easily learn to understand and sign "yes," "no," "bathroom," "focus..." These children are signing "thank you" to show their appreciation.



Fingerspelling builds kinesthetic memory connections for letters and sounds and develops the small muscles necessary for writing. Here children are signing the word "I-o-v-e."



Using American Sign Language makes class management easier: Children fingerspell the L-O-V-E Spells Love song as they go quietly down the hall. The audio of *LO-V-E Spells Love* from the Music is Magic CD can be downloaded, free, at www.nellieedge.com.

Discover the Magic of Signing Songs Building Enthusiasm for Learning



Sign language builds comprehension by creating internal images of language. These children are signing "cat" by tracing the cat's whiskers.



Singing and signing enhances speaking skills: Young children who are fortunate enough to learn ASL through the accelerated language medium of songs have an early and life-long advantage in developing expressive, dynamic speaking skills. Children are signing "rain."



When children are singing and signing, they are focused and engaged - the optimum state for language learning. These children are signing *t*, "t" turtle from the *ABC Sign Language and Phonics Song*, by Nellie Edge.



Children are so proud of themselves when they can sign. They love to sign applause (bravo) in Exact Signed English: Hands moving excitedly to the side of the forehead. **Teachers enjoy how quiet the applause is.**

Discover the Magic of Signing Songs

Enhancing All Children's Language and Literacy

Special thank you to the following members of our ABC, Sign Language and Phonics Immersion study team for inspiration, input and photos: Laura Flocker, Julie Lay, Becky Leber, Kathie Bridges, Jennifer Foster, Joanie Cutler, Sarah Creswell, susan Handzel and Kathy Magoun.

For additional information see the following articles and resources:

Magic Signing of Songs Seminar Flyer

The Magic of Signing Songs - Some Favorite Resources

Audio Recording- L-O-V-E Spells Love and M-O-M Spells Mom

When parents ask, "Why are you signing songs?"

Sing and Sign for Powerful ABC and Phonics Immersion

Signing Songs is a Powerful Language and Literacy Strategy

Accelerate English and Spanish Learning