Sign Language

- **1.** Learn the manual alphabet used by the deaf, and the rules pertaining to it.
- **2.** Learn how to send the receive words, using the manual alphabet.
- **3.** Learn at least 50 words.
- **4.** Learn and present at least one simple Christian song.
- **5.** Where possible, have the Adventurers meet a deaf person and sign with them.
- **6.** Sign a simple Bible verse.



Grade +

New in 1996.

Helps

- 1. As available (from your local Association of the Deaf), use the two-sided manual alphabet cards. That way the children can see what the signs look like from both the sender's and receiver's angle.
- 2. First they can have fun learning to spell their names. Print words on a sheet of paper, and then have the children take turns spelling and receiving the words. Have children get in groups of two and send and receive words of their choice.
- **3.** Words young people really like to learn are the animals and foods. The book *Joy of Signing* is a good book to learn these signs, as well as the other signs. It gives both a word and a picture description of each sign. It also tells the sign's origin (example: Jesus—origin: indicating the nail prints).
- **4.** *Jesus Loves Me* and *Into My Heart* are two examples. Remember to explain the origins when needed.
- **5.** Have someone from your deaf community come in and share a bit of their life with the children, and teach them a few words. This will really bring this award to life.

Resources

- The local chapter of the National Association of the Deaf.
- Christian Record Services International, Inc., P.O. Box 6097,
 Lincoln, Nebraska 68506. Phone: (402) 488-0981.
- National Association of the Deaf, 814 Thayer Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland 20190
- The book *Joy of Signing* (by Lottie Riekshof) is available at most book stores.



Helping Hand





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