

Loud and Clear





Some people brought a man to Jesus. The man was deaf and could hardly speak. They begged Jesus to place his hand on the man.

Jesus took the man to one side, away from the crowd. He put his fingers into the man's ears. Then he spit and touched the man's tongue. Jesus looked up to heaven. With a deep sigh, he said to the man, "Ephphatha!" That means "Be opened!" The man's ears were opened. His tongue was freed up, and he began to speak clearly.

Jesus ordered the people not to tell anyone. But the more he did so, the more they kept talking about it. People were really amazed. "He has done everything well," they said. "He even makes deaf people able to hear. And he makes those who can't speak able to talk."

Mark, chapter 7, verses 32-37 (New International Reader's Version)

? To think about

I wonder what was the first thing the man heard and what was the first thing he said when Jesus healed him. How do you think he felt?

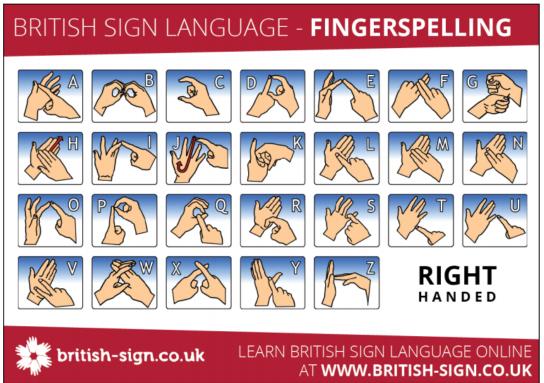


Challenge

British Sign Language

British Sign Language is a language used by people who cannot hear so that they can see words and letters.

Can you work out how to spell your name using British Sign Language?



Can you work out how to say hello and goodbye to everyone in your family using sign language?







Outdoor Activity Suggestions

Listen

Go for a walk with your family and listen to the sounds you can hear. Can you hear all of these things?

- A blackbird
- A car
- Water splashing
- A crow
- People talking

- Some sheep
- An airplane
- Footsteps
- A Tractor
- Singing



Building Challenge

Can you create some homemade instruments from building bricks or old cardboard boxes? For example, elastic bands stretched round a box can be strummed like a guitar, lentils sealed in a snack tube makes a great shaker or stretching sticky tape over the top of an empty tin gives a drum. What other instruments can you think of?



Our God is a Great Big God

Ask the person who is looking after you today to let you sing and sign along to this song on the computer.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YGYVhGWIRhA



Prayer

Amazing God,

Thank you for voices and singing and noises and talking.

Thank you for guiet and silence and peace.

Amen.

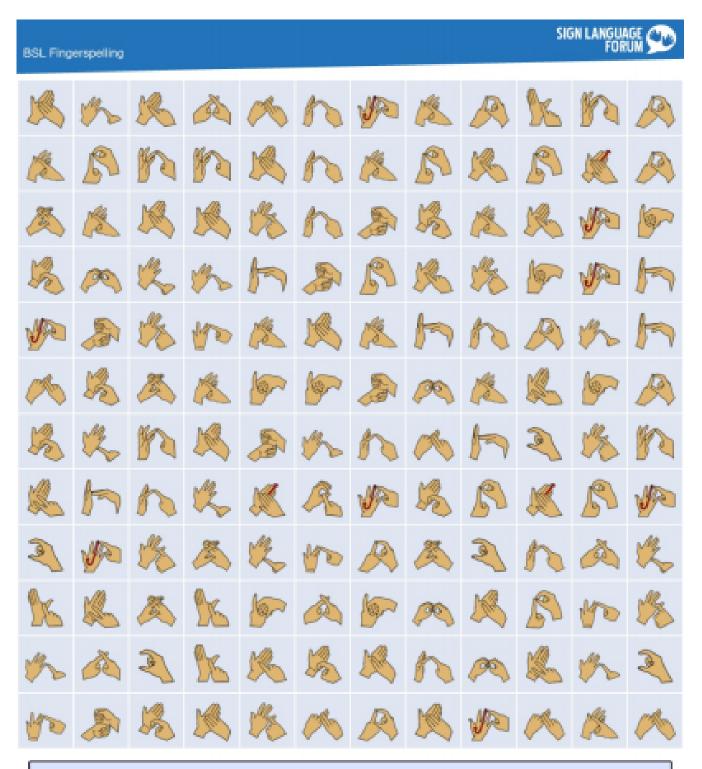
(Amen just means 'I agree' in the language that Jesus spoke.)

Here is a link to a Makaton version of the prayer that Jesus taught his friends, The Lord's Prayer. (Makaton is used to support people who have difficulty speaking and hearing, it uses some signs from BSL.)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_a7mYX_9UIU&list=PL8Q8PGsETCz5vKt cck_StsQQx5uXtpitS

? Puzzle

Can you find the words from the story in the British Sign Language Word Search?



WORDS

-- EARS -- TONGUE -- JESUS -- AMAZED -- OPENED --

Create your own BSL fingerspelling word search puzzles online at www.signlanguageforum.com/bsl/

