

WHY LEARN ASL?



THE MANY BENEFITS OF AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

How does ASL benefit Deaf people?

- Full. Language. Access. What could be better?
- We sure do love ASL in the Deaf Community, so much so that we pass it on to, well, everyone!
- Be bilingual. It's a beautiful brain booster.
- Imagine, your Deaf baby's 3-4 months old and signs! Hint: We're not surprised.
- ASL and Deaf Culture go together like peanut butter and chocolate. Mmmm.
- Whittle those tantrums down to nothing: Kids and parents can learn to communicate their feelings in words instead of tears!
- Humans like to chat. ASL's a good way for hearing AND Deaf people to equally shoot the breeze.
- Lipreading (and only understanding up to 30%) hurts eyes and brains. Be kind to our eyes and brains. Use ASL, easy to follow and pleasant to watch.
- Going traveling, you worldwide traveler, you? Be a pro in ASL and you will be a king or queen of gestures in far off countries. Your mileage may vary.
- It is far better to feel good about being Deaf than bad about being Deaf. Healthy Deaf identity does a mind good.
- Unlike hearing devices, ASL does not (usually) break or malfunction.

How does ASL benefit hearing people?

- FINALLY, you can communicate with Deaf family members! *High five*
- Stop that yelling when someone's far away and sign instead. Reduce noise pollution.
- Sure, it's noisy in this place, but you can still chat.
- Sign while you're eating and not be considered rude!
- Make your resume look snazzier with "ASL fluency!"
- Hang out with those who can't hear - you'll be popular!
- Learning ASL will draw Deaf friends to you like a magnet.
- Be bilingual. Why limit your vocabulary to ONLY one language?
- Surely, you don't want to wait for your babies to speak before you can communicate with them?
- Sore throat? Lost your voice? No problem! Just sign!
- Schools are cool, but weird: Most count ASL as a "foreign language."
- Look, one day you may be old and deaf. Be proactive - learning ASL is much easier while you're still a spring chicken.

