More About American Sign Language Classes

Currently, the Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (VDDHH) does not conduct any American Sign Language Classes at the agency. However, VDDHH attempts to stay abreast of ASL classes offered throughout Virginia.

In some areas there may also be ASL classes held in various localities, such as churches with deaf ministry, Parks & Recreation programs and Adult Education classes with local school systems.

Additional information may be found on both the VDDHH Facebook page and on the VDDHH YouTube Channel. Go to www.vddhh.org for links.
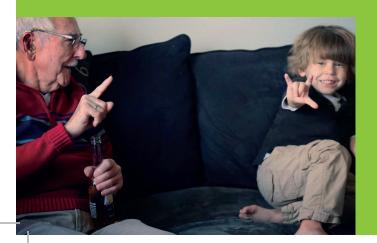
About this Publication

The American Sign Language Resources in Virginia brochure provides information on American Sign Language (ASL) articles, videos, and some ASL courses both live and online. Virginia has a wealth of sign language resources for families - it is just a matter of finding ASL classes in your area!
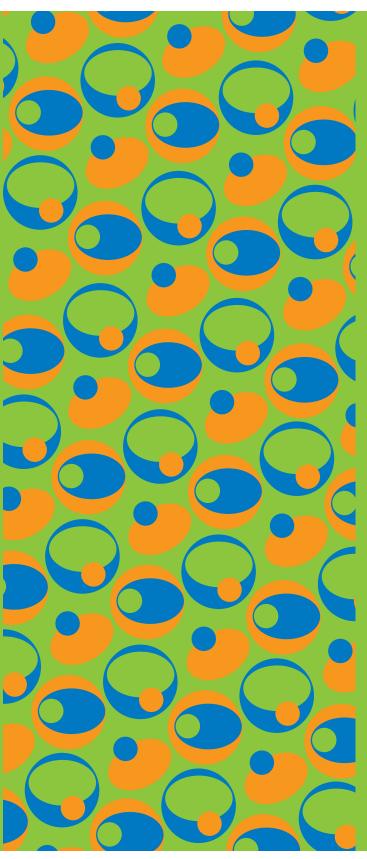
This brochure gives some of the available ASL resources, but the list is not inclusive of all ASL classes in Virginia. Also, not every sign language class teaches ASL – please check the class description and the credentials of the instructor (Deaf, ASL, native user, etc.).

The American Sign Language Resources in Virginia brochure can be found at: www.centerforfamilyinvolvement. vcu.edu/family-to-family-network/supporting-families-of-children-who-are-deafhard-of-hearing/.

If you need any additional information, contact the Center for Family Involvement at (877) 567-1122. We look forward to your call!

September 2016

American Sign Language Resources in Virginia

www.centerforfamilyinvolvement.org

The CFI has provided this list for information only. It does not endorse any of these resources.

Resources

What is American Sign Language?

American Sign Language (ASL) is a visual language. The shape, placement and movement of the hands convey information. ASL is used in the United States and Canada. For further details see the National Association of the Deaf website.

www.nad.org/issues/american-sign-language/what-is-asl

History of American Sign Language

Learn about how American Sign Language started here in the United States.

www.start-american-sign-language.com/history-of-american-sign-language_html

Parents & Families

When your child has been identified as deaf or as having a hearing loss, how do you make decisions that are right for your child and family? Get information from the American Society of Deaf Children at:

www.deafchildren.org/knowledge-center/parents-and-families/

Parent Information Package

VL2's Parent Information Package is a portal to a wide range of resources for parents, teachers, and health professionals. Read and watch interviews with parents, researchers, and scientists about creating language-rich environments.

www.vl2parentspackage.org

Described & Captioned Media Program

It is never too early to expose your child to written words which captioning provides! The DCMP is funded by the U.S. Department of Education and provides a free-loan media program (DVD, video streaming). It is a valuable resource for sign language learning. Families of children who are d/hh are eligible for a FREE lending account with DCMP which works like Netflix. DVDs are sent via US mail and will have a postage paid sticker to return them. There is NO COST for the user. Many DCMP materials may be directly streamed to a computer.

www.dcmp.org

Language in Motion

Family support and early intervention for babies who are deaf and hard of hearing:

www.gallaudet.edu/clerc-center-sites/setting-language-in-motion.html

Best iPhone Apps for Learning Sign Language

Because sign language is a visual language, using an iPhone to learn ASL may work for you!

www.apppicker.com/applists/4624/the-best-iphone-apps-for-learning-sign-language

The Best Apps for Learning Sign Language

Anyone with a smart phone or tablet can learn ASL basics or practice its techniques. Here you will find a list of some of the more popular apps for Apple and Android:

www.healthyhearing.com/report/47829-The-best-apps-for-learning-sign-language

Signwise 4 Kids

Find reviews on many sign language products.

www.signwise4kids.com

Learn to Sign

Online Courses

American Sign Language University (ASLU)

An online ASL curriculum resource center, providing free lessons, self-study materials, and information, as well as fee-based instructor-guided courses:

www.lifeprint.com

ASL Deafined

Learn ASL through video lessons online.

www.asldeafined.com

ASL Nook – A Nook Full of Signs

Learn ASL with fun, kid-friendly videos.

www.aslnook.com

Handspeak

Online sign language resource with ASL essentials in one place – dictionary, tutorials, fingerspelling and more:

www.handspeak.com

Sign It! American Sign Language Made Easy

SignIt ASL is ideal for anyone with an interest in learning beginning sign language. Learn ASL vocabulary, phrases, sentences, grammar, Deaf culture, and much more! Families can sign up on the email list under Frequently Asked Questions to receive SignIt! for free.

www.signitasl.com/faq/

Sign Language 101

Learn Sign Language online at:

www.signlanguage101.com

Signing Savvy

Improve your signing vocabulary.

www.signingsavvy.com/learning

Start ASL

Start ASL is a fun way to learn American Sign Language for free.

www.start-american-sign-language.com/learn-sign-language-asl.html

Gallaudet University

Gallaudet is the world's only university designed to be barrier free for students who are deaf and hard of hearing. They offer extensive classes in ASL both online and in the classroom.

www.gallaudet.edu/asl.html

In the Classroom

The Virginia Community College System (VCCS)

VCCS offers extensive courses in ASL for all levels. Some locations offer an Associate of Applied Science degree in American Sign Language.

courses.vccs.edu/colleges/rcc/courses/ASL101-AmericanSignLanguageI

Family Sign (FS) Language Classes

Staunton — Offered by Virginia School for the Deaf & Blind, Family Sign Language Classes are designed for families with children under age 5 who are deaf.

www.vsdb.k12.va.us/Outreach/

The PCA Program of Challenge Discovery Projects (PCA)

Richmond — The PCA Program addresses the multiple needs of families with children who are deaf and hard of hearing by offering sign language skill development and other services. At monthly meetings, parents learn sign language communication skills while children socialize and play English language development games.

www.challengediscoveryprojects.org/pcavideos.html