# **Core Skills Analysis**

### Language & Communication

- Recognized basic concepts of American Sign Language (ASL), understanding it as a unique mode of communication.
- Developed fine motor skills by practicing hand shapes and movements fundamental to ASL gestures.
- Enhanced visual-spatial processing by learning to interpret and mimic signs accurately.
- Began to appreciate cultural diversity through exposure to ASL as a language used by the Deaf community.

#### Tips

To deepen the child's understanding of American Sign Language, consider incorporating daily practice of simple signs for common words like 'hello,' 'thank you,' and emotions to build functional vocabulary. Encourage storytelling using ASL to nurture expressive language skills and creativity. Engage with Deaf culture by watching age-appropriate videos or attending community events to foster empathy and cultural awareness. Creating a sign language journal with drawings and descriptions of new signs can help reinforce memory and pride in learning a unique communication method.

#### **Book Recommendations**

- <u>Sign Language for Everyone</u> by Ruth Righi: An engaging introduction to basic ASL signs through stories and illustrations perfect for young learners.
- <u>The Complete Idiot's Guide to American Sign Language</u> by Susan Wise: A beginner-friendly guide that introduces ASL concepts and fundamental signs suitable for children.
- <u>Signing Made Easy</u> by Karen Lewis: A clear and accessible picture book that teaches common ASL words and phrases to kids.

## **Learning Standards**

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.2.1 Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about grade 2 topics and texts, demonstrating understanding through appropriate responses.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.2.6 Use words and phrases acquired through conversations, reading, and being read to, including figurative language and vocabulary knowledge.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.2.4 Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 2 reading and content.

## **Try This Next**

- Create a flashcard deck with common ASL signs and their meanings to practice at home.
- Write a short story or poem and learn to sign it together, combining literacy and ASL skills.