

## Objective

By the end of this lesson, the student will be able to recognize and produce basic American Sign Language (ASL) signs, as well as understand the importance of ASL in communication and culture. The student will also learn a few simple phrases to engage in basic conversation using ASL.

## Materials and Prep

- Open space for movement
- Mirror (optional, for practicing signs)
- Pencil and paper for notes
- Access to a video platform (optional, for watching ASL videos)

Before the lesson, familiarize yourself with the basics of ASL, including the alphabet and some common phrases. It might be helpful to have a list of signs ready for reference or to watch a few introductory ASL videos to get inspired.

## Activities

- **ASL Alphabet Practice:** The student will learn the ASL alphabet by practicing each letter's sign. They can spell out their name and then try to spell out words that are meaningful to them.
- **Simple Phrases:** Introduce a few simple phrases like "Hello," "Thank you," and "How are you?" The student will practice these phrases and learn how to use facial expressions to convey meaning.
- **Story Time:** Choose a short story or a simple children's book. The student will practice signing the story to a family member or friend, using their imagination to convey the story visually.
- **ASL Charades:** Play a game of charades where the student has to convey a word or phrase using ASL while others guess what it is. This will encourage creativity and reinforce their learning.

## Talking Points

- "Did you know that American Sign Language is a complete language with its own grammar and syntax?"
- "ASL is used by many Deaf and hard-of-hearing people in the United States and parts of Canada."
- "Facial expressions are really important in ASL. They can change the meaning of what you're signing!"
- "Learning ASL can help you communicate with a wider range of people and understand their culture better."
- "Practice makes perfect! The more you practice your signs, the more natural it will feel."
- "Remember, it's okay to make mistakes while learning. It's all part of the process!"
- "What's your favorite sign so far? Let's practice it together!"