

## ASL Stages of Development (American Society for Deaf Children, 2012)

### 2– 6 Months

- Pays attention to faces
- Follows things with eyes
- Is fascinated by his or her own hands
- Copies movements and facial expressions
- Babbles with his or her hands

### 6 – 12 Months

- First hand shapes emerge; "5" and "S"
- First signs may emerge – "Mommy," "Daddy," "More," "Milk," "Bath," "Bed."
- Mimics signs and facial expressions
- Points to people, objects and places not at self

### 12 – 18 Months

- Uses at least 10 signs
- Begins to use points as pronouns
- Acquires new signs but does not mark with inflections
- Responds to signed requests

### 18 – 24 Months

- Points to things or pictures when named
- Knows names of familiar people
- Follows simple instructions
- Repeats signs seen in conversation
- Understands and carries out complex commands and requests
- Shows interest in "how" and "why"

### 2 – 3 Years

- Uses directional verbs – "Give Me"
- Expresses possessives – "My Shoe"
- Uses action and object forms –

#### Signs to self

- Signs throughout the day
- Sign order used to show semantic relations
- Begins to use classifiers to represent objects
- Demonstrates negation with headshake or sign "No"
- Begins to use possessive (your, mine) and plural ("Us-Two," "You-Three")

#### pronouns

- Refers to things around them during conversations and storytelling; may copy the actions and facial expressions of others in a story