

## How to meet a deaf person:

Course 5.5 Day 29



We are accustomed to meeting people with hearing: exchange of names (which are not often remembered), a handshake, minimal eye contact. The unspoken rules are a little different when meeting a deaf person.

Be prepared to sign this information when you first meet a deaf person.

Use this guide to practice signing with a partner. Give yourself a check mark when you feel you are comfortable to sign each item.

- Your first and last name
- If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or hearing
- Where you learned or are learning Sign Language
- Your teacher's name
- Whether your instructor is deaf or hearing
- Why you are learning ASL
- Where you live
- About your family
- Where you work

### Be sure you know:

- Your alphabet in sign
- Nice to meet you sign
- WH question NMM
- Yes/No NMM
- What a name sign is



**A quick review on the WH, Yes/No NMM.** Here are two possibilities of what you may encounter.

English: "Are you deaf or hearing?" ASL: YOU DEAF HEARING, WHICH?

This is a wh-word question because it requires more than a yes or no answer. Signer includes eyebrows down, body leans forward, and holds last sign.

English: "Are you hearing?"

ASL: HEARING YOU?

This is a yes/no question. Yes/no questions require only a yes or no answer. Signer includes raising their eyebrows, body leans slightly forward, and hold last sign.

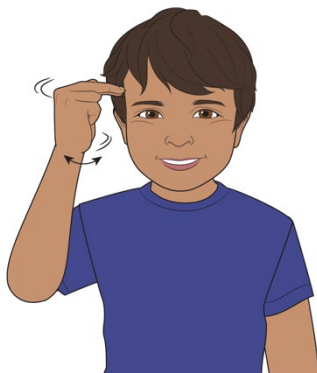
### Name Signs:

Name signs are used to identify a person and eliminate the need to fingerspell a person's name repeatedly. There are three kinds of name signs used by Deaf people--arbitrary, descriptive, and a hybrid of both. Arbitrary name signs use the first letter of the person's name. Descriptive name signs are based on one of the person's physical characteristics.

Hybrid name signs use as one of the person's

the first letter of the person's name as well physical characteristics.

A hearing person can Deaf person once you You cannot create you by a Deaf person. always introduce first and then signing has a name sign, be sure to include it after you spell the name.

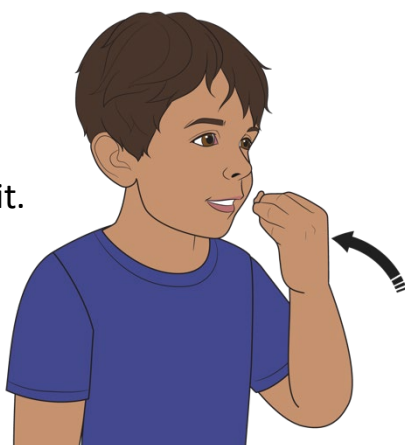


only receive an official name sign from a have been involved in the Deaf community. your own name sign--it must be given to If you do receive a name sign, you should yourself by fingerspelling your full name your name sign. If your friend or teacher

### Departure advice:

In deaf culture, it is proper to announce your departure. When you are ready to leave, for whatever reason, be sure to say where you are going, and if you're not coming back, let them know that too.

If you need to get food, sign it.



Yes, even if you need to go to the bathroom, sign it.

