

The Canaan Barrie signs

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Core Vocabulary

Wash



Mime washing hands, exaggerate sound

Bath

“Wash” sign then rub upper chest

Shower

“Wash” sign then drum fingers on top of head

Brush hair



Rub hair between fingers and pull along length of hair

Dress/get dressed



Draw fists down body from shoulders down to waist.
Undress – Draw fists up body from waist to shoulders

Hello



Shake right hand of child

Goodbye



Touch fingertips of child and wave

Up/stand up



Rub hand up child's upper arm then flick fingers against thumb, up high

Down/sit down



Rub hand down child's upper arm, then flick fingers against thumb, down low

Core Vocabulary

Lie down

Rub hand down child's back and flick fingers down low

Toilet



Rub hips in downward direction, exaggerate sound

Bed



Clap hands beside ear then rest head on hands

Goodnight



Rub two fingers down forehead and nose

Sleep



Use thumb and index finger, open and close them in front of eyes, hands to side of face

Sad/crying



Rub cheeks in downwards strokes

Good



A “positive” sign, tap your chest twice with flat hand.
Also: **like/want/happy**

Don't want/don't like



A “negative” sign, child pushes own hand away from body, or adult gently pushes on child's shoulder
Also: **don't want/don't like**

Ill/poorly



Rub forehead in circular motion, then on part of body affected

Core Vocabulary

Medicine



Hold little finger inside fist of other hand

Stop



One loud clap

Work



Tap side of one hand across side of the other hand, twice

Mummy



Tap fingers on palm of opposite hand, twice

Daddy



Tap on either side of chin with fingertips, twice

School



Tap fists together twice, thumbs pointing outwards

Play



Flap hands in air near child's face (create air currents) or child flaps hands near own face

Again



Tap fist twice on opposite upper arm

More



Bang fist twice on table top

Core Vocabulary

Finished



Tap flat hand on back of other hand twice with palms facing downward towards floor

Go



Rub back of fingers along arm, then gesture away from body

Come



Beckon up towards shoulder, tap shoulder twice

Me/my

Place palm of hand on chest

You/your

Place palm of hand on child's chest

PE



Tap shoulders twice, fast

Swimming



Mime swimming action (like doggy paddle) near child's face

Shopping



Rub thumb on fingertips, near child's ear

Riding



Slap side of hands up and down, against each other

Canaan Barrie signs

Core Vocabulary

Massage



Rub back of hand with palm of other hand, twice

Friend



Slap palm on back of opposite hand with palms held towards body, then shake in front of own body

Home



"Clap" one hand over the back of the other, then bring both towards chest and tap chest once

Birthday



Tap shoulder with opposite fist twice

Drink



Make "fishy" noise (ie open and close mouth noisily) and tap cupped hand on upper lip twice

Eat



Say "mmm" and tap mouth twice

Music



Clap hands at shoulder height and sway arms from side to side, keeping palms together

Song/singing



Clap hands twice

Dance



Snap fingers and twist upper body from side to side

Core Vocabulary

Walk



Stamp feet

Bus



Flat palm, draw circle on palm with side of fist

Outing/out



Bang fist in palm then gesture with thumb over shoulder

Canaan Barrie signs

Morning



Fists with thumbs out, draw from chest out towards shoulders

Afternoon



Tap chin twice with first and second fingers

Evening



Cross arms across chest and pat shoulders twice

Please



Flick fingers under chin and bring hand forward in short gesture

Thank you



Tap chin once and bring hand forward in longer gesture

Physio



Stroke hand down opposite arm then grip wrist and pull gently across body

Core Vocabulary

Buggy/wheelchair



Draw fingertips across stomach until hands meet in the middle, as if putting on belt

People and places

Man



Stroke chin twice with thumb and fingers either side

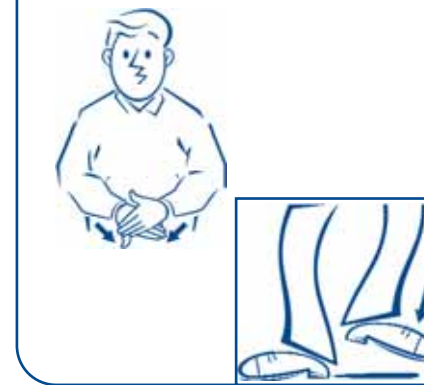
Woman/lady



Stroke side of face twice

People and places

Bathroom



Sign **wash** then **room**

Weather

Sun



Flap hand in front of eyes

Canaan Barrie signs

Light



Tap side of eye twice

Nurse



Draw fist across forehead once

Doctor



Tap side of neck twice

Bedroom



Sign **bed** then **room**

Rain



Dribble or drum fingers lightly on back of hand

Snow



Sign **cold** then **rain**

Wind



Blow and wave hand in front of mouth

Play room



Sign **play** then **room**

Dining room



Sign **eat** then **room**

Class room



Sign **school** then **room**

Hot



Wipe hand across forehead once

Cold



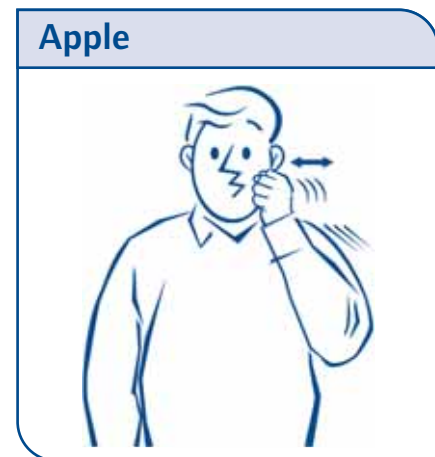
Rub both hands on opposite upper arms, twice

Bread

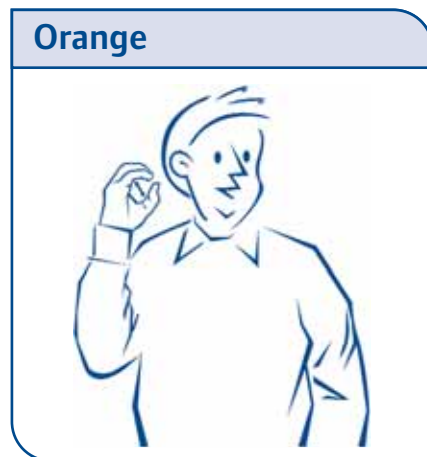


With side of hand in palm of other hand, make slicing movement

Food and drink



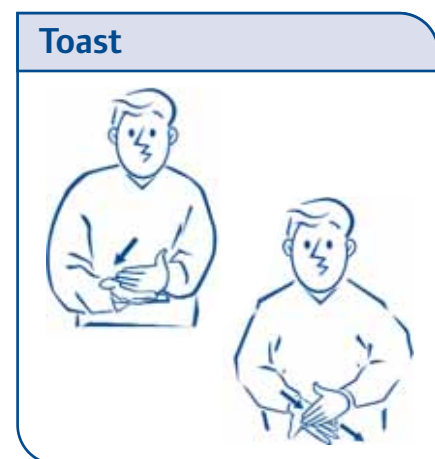
Tap cheek twice with fist



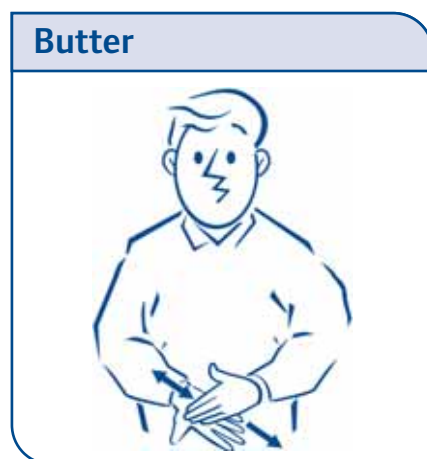
Tap fingertips into palm of same hand, in squeezing action



Stroke hand down opposite fist three times, moving round hand



Tap side of hand in palm of other hand, then draw palm across lower palm away from body



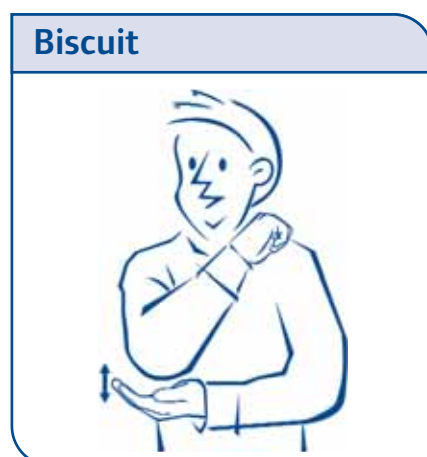
Stroke fingertips, back and forth as if spreading butter



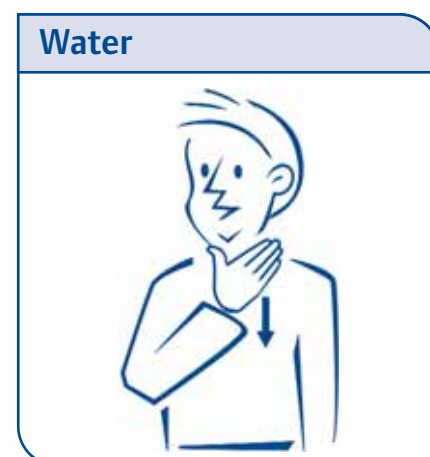
Tap teeth with fingertip or fingertips twice



Tap back of hand with fist once



Tap elbow twice



Rub hand down neck from chin to upper chest

Canaan Barrie signs

Food and drink



Rub fist twice on opposite side of body near shoulder



Brush fingertips across chin



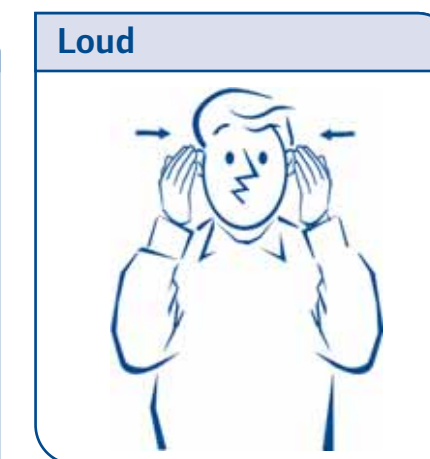
Tap fist on opposite forearm once



Rub thumb against tips of other four fingers



Put finger to mouth and make "sh" sound

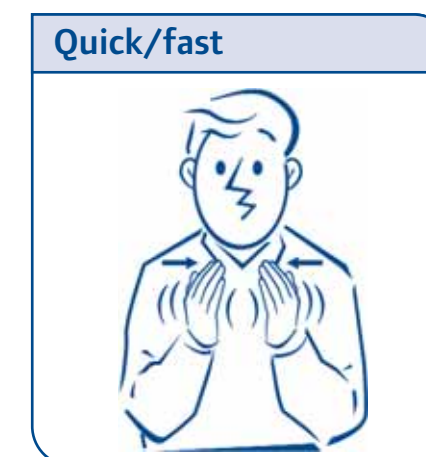


Cup both hands over ears

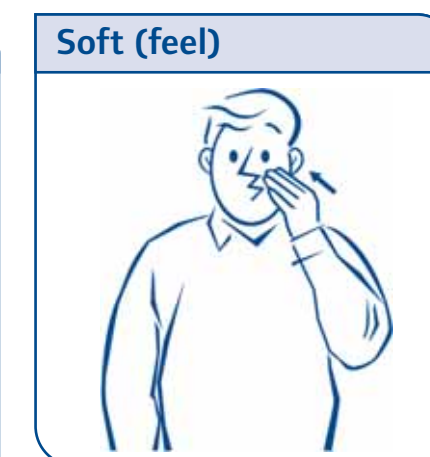
Concepts



Draw fingertips up inner arm slowly



Clap hands several times quickly



Press fingers gently onto cheek

Concepts

Hard (feel)



Tap one fist on kneecap once

Big



Using both hands, draw fingertips across upper chest beyond body

Little



Using both hands, draw fingertips across upper chest (very small movements)

Wet



Dribble or drum fingers lightly (as in **rain** sign) on part of body which is wet. For toileting, if child is **wet** make wet sign on hip

Dry



Circular movement with palm of hand on object or part of body which is dry. For toileting, make circular movement on one hip

Same



Point first finger of both hands forwards, bring side of hands together, tap once

Clean



Sweep palm of one hand along palm of opposite hand quickly, several times

Dirty



Make two fists, cross hands at wrist and knock wrists together, twice

Today



Tap lower chest twice at waist level with side of both hands

Time

Tomorrow



With fingertip touch cheek and gesture outwards

Yesterday



With fingertips touch cheek and then shoulder

After



Brush front of wrist with fingertips outwards and away from body

Now



Tap fingertips (cupped hand) on opposite flat palm, once

Time



Tap back of opposite wrist once with fingertips

Days of the week

Monday



Tap index finger twice against thumb of same hand, or tap index finger twice with opposite hand

Tuesday



Tap middle finger twice against thumb of same hand, or tap middle finger twice with opposite hand

Wednesday



Tap ring finger twice against thumb of same hand, or tap ring finger twice with opposite hand

Thursday



Tap little finger twice against thumb of same hand, or tap little finger twice with opposite hand

Days of the week

Friday



Run fingers down cheek and tap chin twice

Saturday



Tap under chin twice with back of hand

Sunday



Tap chest twice with side of hand in upright position

Objects

Door



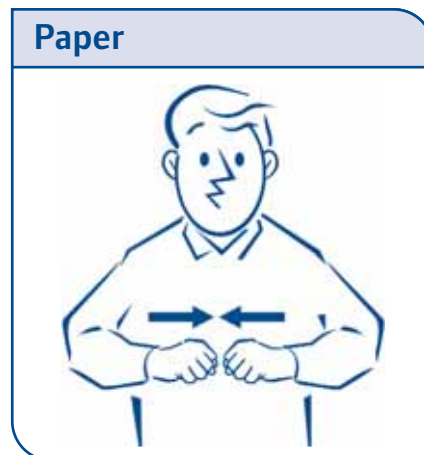
Arm held away from body, elbow flexed, push against it with other hand (making slapping sound) and move both away from body

Sand



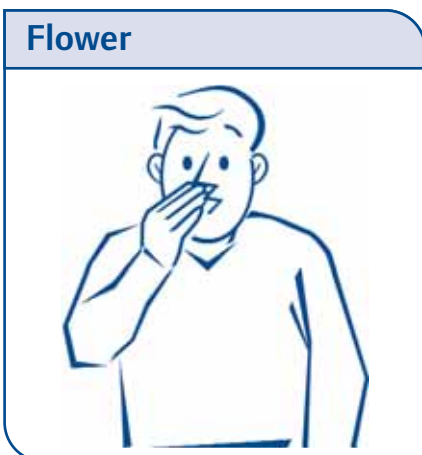
Flick/brush hand on opposite shoulder twice

Paper



Make two fists then tap knuckles against each other twice

Flower



Hold fingertips under nose and sniff

Bird



Open and close thumb and first finger like a beak, holding hand close to mouth

Dog



Pat calf twice

Objects

Tape



Tap fist under ear twice

Television



With fingertips, stroke from eye to ear.

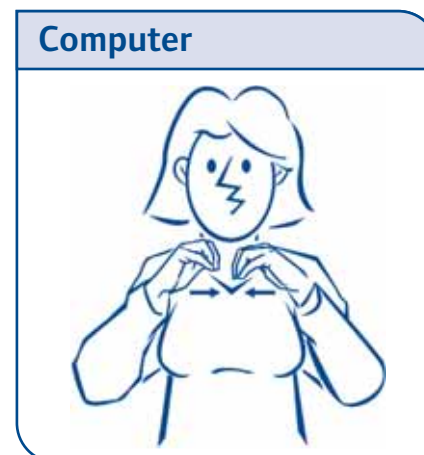
Video: sign television then tape

Telephone



Put fist to cheek with thumb extended – tap once and say “phone”

Computer



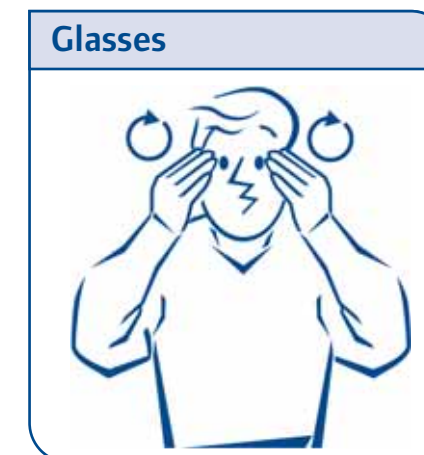
Cup hands in C shape, palms pointing inwards, tap fingertips together three times

Money



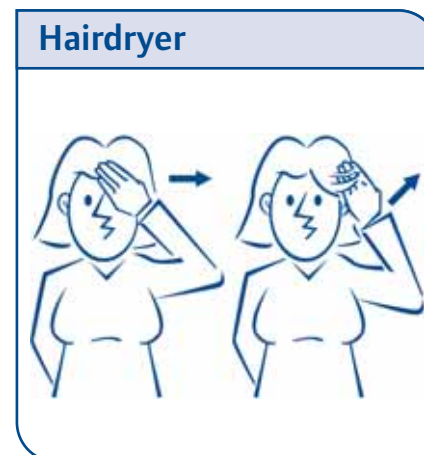
Rub thumb across fingertips of same hand, one hand only

Glasses



Run fingers round eyebrows and under the eyes, in circular motion from nose outwards, both hands

Hairdryer



Sign **hot** then sweep fingers through hair in an upward direction

Drum



Mime playing on drum on upper thigh, one hand only

Bells



Shake earlobe between thumb and forefinger a few times

Canaan Barrie signs

Actions

To see/look



Tap side of eye twice with fingertips and indicate direction, if appropriate

To hear/listen



Press palm against ear

To tell



Tap finger on side of mouth and gesture forwards

To help



Closed fist on palm of other hand – move both hands upwards and out

To wait



With palms facing down, tap one palm on back of other hand, held in front of body, then push down

To make/do



Tap fist on top of other fist once

The signs for run, kick, dig, jump, and climb can all be communicated by miming the action

To bring



Make **come** sign with both hands

To feel/touch



With palm of hand stroke down opposite forearm twice

Actions

To give



Place both hands at hip level, palms up, move both hands out and forwards from the body

To cook/bake



Make circle with one arm, by putting hand on hip. Run other hand round in a circle, inside opposite arm

Questions

When?



Tap back of opposite wrist with fingertips twice

Where?



Place open hands at side of body, palms up, circle forward, out and back

Who?



Stroke palm upwards over forehead and slightly out

What?



Tap first finger once lightly on side of head and gesture outwards

Feelings

Angry



Tap one fist on head twice

Frightened/scared



Scratch fingertips up and down, alternately on chest using two hands

Surprised



Place hand beside eye, palm pointing forwards, extend fingers outwards with a flick, while taking in quick breath

Feelings

Bored/fed up



Draw palm down centre of face from forehead to chin and sigh

Sorry



Circle fist on upper chest once

Hungry



Rub tummy in circular motion

Personal

Thirsty



Pluck at throat with thumb and first finger

Pee



Toilet sign then slide one hand down the hip

Menstruation/period



Put one hand on tummy, dribble fingers of other hand on back of first hand

Pad



Pull at front of trousers/skirt at waist height.
Sanitary towel: sign **period** then **pad**

Masturbate



Make a fist and twist from the wrist (a semi-circular movement) three times

Aftershave



Pat cheeks with both hands, quickly

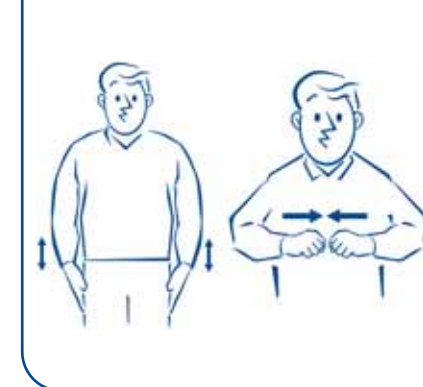
Personal

Deodorant



Make **wet** sign ie dribble fingers, close to armpit

Toilet paper



Sign **toilet** then **paper**

Canaan Barrie signs

Cream



Trace a circle with fingertips on the back of the opposite hand, several times then touch part of body cream will be applied to

Shave



Make fist with thumb extended. Rub thumb down side of face

To cuddle



Squeeze child's arms gently or cross arms over body and squeeze self in towards chest

Bowel movement



Toilet sign then tap back at waist height

Make up



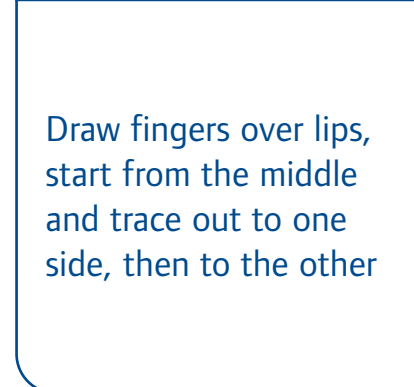
Rub hands over cheeks in circular movement

Eye shadow



Draw finger tips across eyebrow and away from body

Lipstick



Draw fingers over lips, start from the middle and trace out to one side, then to the other