

- 1 Look at the picture. How is this family speaking?
- 2 ))) Listen and read. Are all sign languages the same?

## Sign Languages

People speak many different languages. But what about people who are **deaf**? Some deaf people use **sign language**. It's a language just like English or Portuguese. It has words, numbers, and grammar, too.

In sign language, people **communicate** by making different shapes with their hands. The words in sign language are called **signs**. People learn to read these signs, just like you learn to read words on a page.



There are many different types of sign languages in the world. A lot of countries have their own sign languages.

There are schools that teach in sign language, too. Students learn subjects like reading, math, science, and history by **signing** with their teachers.

Sign language is a lot more than just hand movements, it is an entire language.

### Did You Know?

Deaf people shake their hands in the air to show that they like something. It's similar to the way you clap your hands.

## 1 Read the text again. Then match.

- 1 a deaf person
  - 2 sign language
  - 3 signs
  - 4 communicate
- a people speak with their hands in this language
  - b a person who cannot hear
  - c to talk to other people
  - d words in sign language



## 2 Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

different    grammar    hands    read    teach

- 1 Some people communicate with their mouths and some people use their .....
- 2 Sign languages have words, numbers, and .....
- 3 People who use sign language learn how to ..... signs.
- 4 Some schools use sign language to ..... students.
- 5 There are many ..... sign languages in the world.

## 3 Do you want to learn a sign language? Tell a friend.

I want to learn sign language.

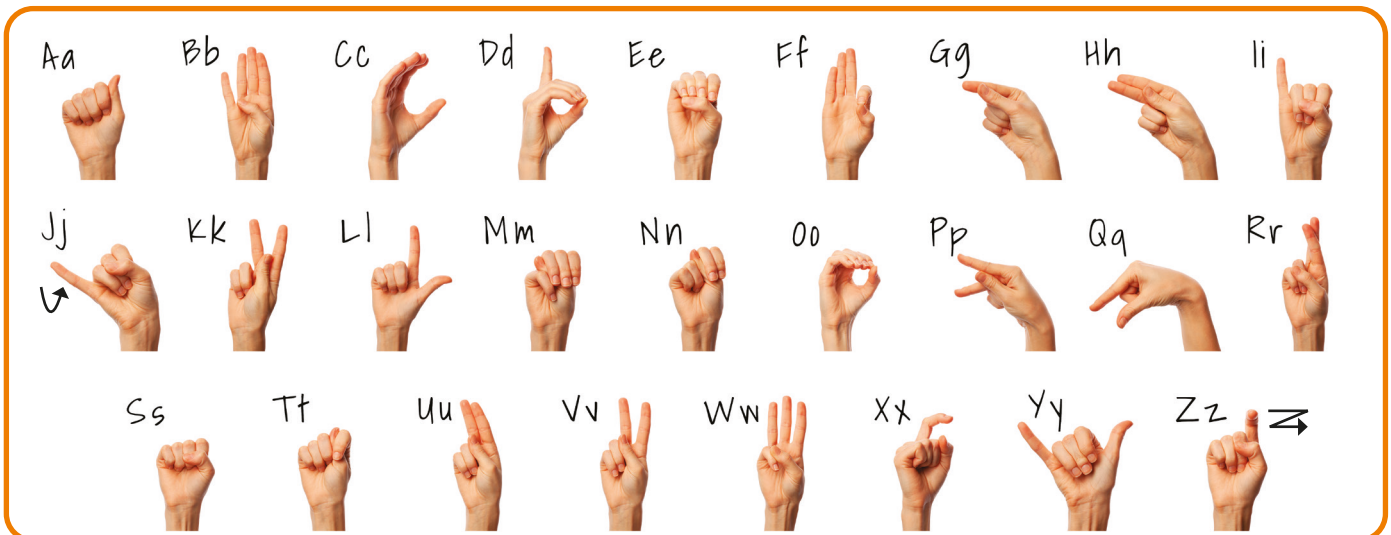
Me too! It's interesting.

# Time to Think

## 1 Read the text. Which country uses AusLan?

Sign language is different across the world. There are almost 300 different types of sign languages! Different English language countries have their own sign languages, too. For example, there's American Sign Language (ASL), Australian Sign Language (AusLan), and British Sign Language (BSL). Sign languages also have alphabets to spell names. In ASL, people use one hand to spell, but in BSL and AusLan they use two hands.

### American Sign Language



## 2 Look at the alphabet chart. Practice signing letters with a friend.

## 3 Read the texts again. Then circle.

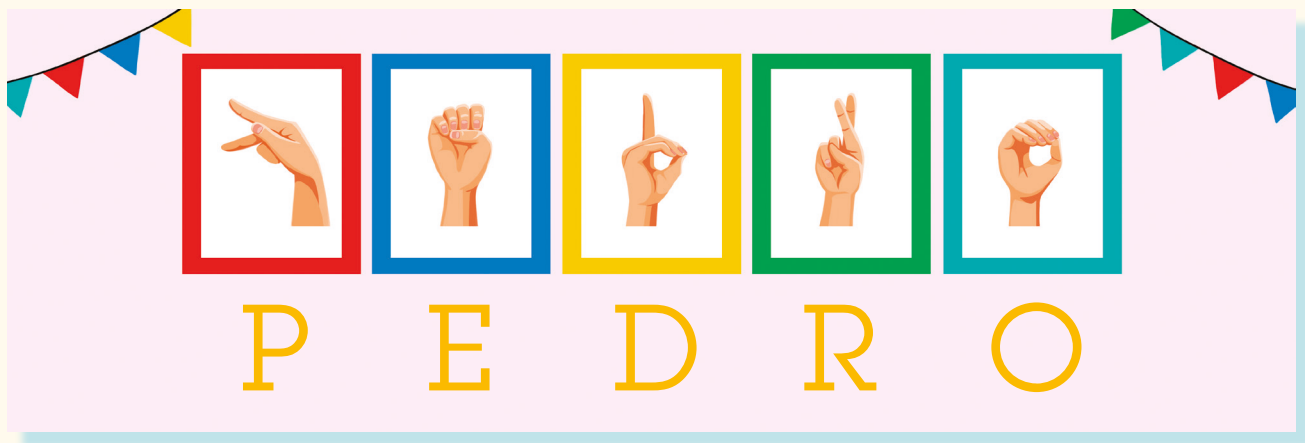
- 1 Some deaf students learn by *writing* / *signing* with their teachers.
- 2 In ASL, people use *one hand* / *two hands* to spell, and in BSL they use *one hand* / *two hands*.
- 3 Sign languages *have* / *don't have* words, numbers, and grammar.
- 4 In the UK, people use *ASL* / *BSL*. In the USA, they use *ASL* / *BSL*.





## Prepare

- 1 Look at the ASL signs. What name do they spell?



## Create

- 2 Use the chart or an online video to learn how to spell your name in ASL. You can also look for sign language videos from your country.



## Showcase

- 3 Present your name to the class with the signs you learned.



It's Our World

What sign languages are used in your country?

Chapter 7

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