

signing naturally

signing naturally is an innovative approach to learning American Sign Language (ASL) that focuses on immersing learners in the natural flow of the language. This method is designed to help students develop authentic communication skills by emphasizing real-life interactions, cultural awareness, and visual language strategies. Throughout this article, you will discover the origins and philosophy behind signing naturally, explore its curriculum structure, understand the benefits of learning ASL through this method, and receive practical tips for both learners and educators. Whether you are a student, teacher, or simply curious about American Sign Language, this comprehensive guide will illuminate why signing naturally has become a leading standard in ASL education.

- What Is Signing Naturally?
- The Philosophy Behind Signing Naturally
- Curriculum Structure and Levels
- Key Features of the Signing Naturally Approach
- Benefits of Learning ASL with Signing Naturally
- Tips for Success with Signing Naturally
- Resources and Materials
- Frequently Asked Questions about Signing Naturally

What Is Signing Naturally?

Signing Naturally is a highly regarded American Sign Language curriculum developed to enable learners to acquire ASL in an intuitive, interactive, and practical manner. Originating in the 1980s, this teaching system was created by experienced Deaf educators who recognized the need for a structured yet immersive approach to ASL instruction. The curriculum is widely used in high schools, colleges, and community programs across North America and beyond. Its main objective is to help students achieve fluency in ASL by immersing them in authentic communication scenarios and encouraging natural language use from the very beginning.

Unlike traditional language learning methods that rely heavily on rote memorization and grammar drills, signing naturally emphasizes a visual-gestural approach. Students participate in dialogues, storytelling, and interactive activities that reflect real-life interactions in the Deaf community. This method not only builds language proficiency but also fosters cultural understanding and confidence in using ASL in daily situations.

The Philosophy Behind Signing Naturally

The signing naturally philosophy centers around the belief that language is best learned when it is experienced in context. The curriculum was developed by Deaf educators who wanted to replicate the way Deaf people naturally acquire ASL from birth-through exposure, repetition, and meaningful communication. This language acquisition approach mirrors how spoken languages are learned by children, emphasizing immersion, comprehension, and gradual language development.

Key aspects of the signing naturally philosophy include:

- Focus on real-world communication rather than isolated vocabulary or grammar rules.
- Encouragement of visual language strategies, such as facial expressions and body language.
- Integration of Deaf culture and social norms into lessons.
- Emphasis on active participation and peer interaction.

By prioritizing natural language use, signing naturally helps learners build confidence and competence in ASL, making it a preferred choice for modern ASL education.

Curriculum Structure and Levels

Signing Naturally is organized into multiple levels, each targeting specific language skills and proficiency milestones. The curriculum is suitable for complete beginners as well as those seeking advanced ASL communication abilities.

Beginner Level (Units 1–6)

The entry-level units introduce foundational vocabulary, fingerspelling, basic sentence structures, and simple conversational skills. Lessons focus on everyday topics such as greetings, family, activities, and descriptions, enabling students to start communicating right away.

Intermediate Level (Units 7–12)

Building on the basics, intermediate units expand vocabulary, grammar, and storytelling abilities. Students learn to discuss routines, give directions, describe people and places, and handle a wider range of social situations. Visual language strategies are further developed.

Advanced Level (Units 13+)

Advanced units challenge learners with complex narratives, in-depth discussions, and cultural topics. Emphasis is placed on refining expressive and receptive skills, understanding nuanced grammar, and participating in debates or presentations relevant to the Deaf community.

- Each level includes a combination of video lessons, in-class activities, and practice exercises.
- Lessons are scaffolded to allow for gradual and cumulative skill development.
- Assessment tools and self-evaluation are integrated into the curriculum.

Key Features of the Signing Naturally Approach

The signing naturally curriculum stands out due to several distinctive features that set it apart from other ASL learning resources.

Immersive Video Content

Lessons include high-quality video segments featuring native ASL users. These videos expose students to authentic signing, diverse signing styles, and the natural flow of conversation, which is essential for developing comprehension and fluency.

Visual Language Emphasis

Students are taught to rely on visual cues such as facial expressions, body movements, and spatial referencing. This visual-gestural focus mirrors the way ASL is used in everyday communication and enhances understanding beyond vocabulary alone.

Interactive Classroom Activities

Classroom sessions encourage pair and group work, role-playing, and real-life scenario practice. Participation and interaction are fundamental, allowing learners to gain confidence and adapt to various communication contexts.

Cultural Integration

Deaf culture, history, and etiquette are woven throughout the curriculum. Students learn about the values, experiences, and traditions of the Deaf

community, promoting respectful and informed interactions.

Benefits of Learning ASL with Signing Naturally

Choosing signing naturally as your ASL learning method offers numerous advantages for both students and educators.

- Faster and more natural language acquisition through immersive practice.
- Increased fluency and confidence in real-life communication settings.
- Greater cultural awareness and understanding of the Deaf community.
- Development of essential visual literacy skills for effective communication.
- Flexible curriculum suitable for diverse learning environments and abilities.

The signing naturally approach is also recognized for its adaptability, making it effective for various age groups, learning speeds, and educational settings.

Tips for Success with Signing Naturally

To maximize your progress and enjoyment with signing naturally, consider the following strategies:

- Regularly review video lessons and practice signing with peers or instructors.
- Engage in active participation during classroom activities and group work.
- Emphasize comprehension and expression over memorizing vocabulary lists.
- Immerse yourself in the Deaf community through events, workshops, or online forums.
- Utilize self-assessment tools and seek constructive feedback from native signers.

Staying consistent, open-minded, and proactive in your learning will lead to greater proficiency and confidence in using ASL naturally.

Resources and Materials

The signing naturally curriculum offers a range of resources to support learners and instructors:

- Textbooks and workbooks with structured lessons, vocabulary, and grammar explanations.
- Companion video series featuring native signers and real-life scenarios.
- Instructor guides with lesson plans, assessment tools, and classroom activities.
- Online supplementary materials, including practice quizzes and interactive exercises.
- Community forums and social media groups for peer support and practice opportunities.

These materials are widely available through educational institutions, bookstores, and online retailers, ensuring access for learners at all stages.

Frequently Asked Questions about Signing Naturally

Here are some commonly asked questions about the signing naturally curriculum and approach.

Q: What makes signing naturally different from other ASL programs?

A: Signing Naturally focuses on immersive, real-life communication and visual language strategies, rather than memorization and grammar drills. It also integrates Deaf culture and authentic materials for a holistic learning experience.

Q: Who created the signing naturally curriculum?

A: Signing Naturally was developed by experienced Deaf educators Cheri Smith, Ella Mae Lentz, and Ken Mikos in collaboration with DawnSignPress.

Q: Is signing naturally suitable for self-study?

A: While signing naturally is designed for classroom use, motivated learners can use the textbooks and videos for self-study, especially if they supplement their learning with practice partners or community involvement.

Q: How many levels are in the signing naturally

series?

A: The curriculum is divided into multiple levels, typically ranging from beginner (Units 1-6), intermediate (Units 7-12), and advanced (Units 13+), covering a broad spectrum of language skills.

Q: Can signing naturally help me become fluent in ASL?

A: Yes, with consistent practice, participation in interactive activities, and engagement with the Deaf community, signing naturally provides a strong foundation for ASL fluency.

Q: Does signing naturally teach Deaf culture?

A: Yes, the curriculum integrates Deaf culture, values, and social norms throughout its lessons, ensuring students gain both linguistic and cultural competence.

Q: Are there online resources for signing naturally?

A: Yes, many educational institutions and publishers offer digital versions of the textbooks, videos, and supplementary practice materials.

Q: What age group is signing naturally best for?

A: Signing Naturally is suitable for high school students, college students, and adult learners. There are also modified versions available for younger learners.

Q: How long does it take to complete the signing naturally curriculum?

A: Completion time varies depending on the level, class structure, and individual pace, but each unit is designed for thorough, progressive skill development.

Q: Do I need any prior experience with ASL to start signing naturally?

A: No prior experience is necessary. The curriculum is structured to accommodate absolute beginners as well as those with some background in ASL.

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Signing Naturally: Your Comprehensive Guide to Mastering Sign Language

Are you fascinated by the world of sign language and eager to learn a new way to communicate? Perhaps you're looking to connect with the Deaf community, enhance your career prospects, or simply expand your linguistic horizons. Whatever your motivation, "Signing Naturally" is a widely recognized and highly effective method for learning American Sign Language (ASL). This comprehensive guide delves into the "Signing Naturally" curriculum, exploring its benefits, structure, resources, and how to best utilize it for successful language acquisition. We'll also address common questions and concerns, equipping you with the knowledge and tools you need to embark on your sign language journey.

What is Signing Naturally?

"Signing Naturally" is more than just a textbook; it's a complete, multimedia ASL learning system. Developed by renowned educators, this curriculum uses a communicative approach, prioritizing fluency and natural conversation over rote memorization. Unlike other methods that may focus heavily on grammar rules upfront, "Signing Naturally" emphasizes practical application, building your vocabulary and conversational skills gradually. This immersive learning experience utilizes video, workbooks, and online resources to create a dynamic and engaging educational path.

Key Features of the Signing Naturally Curriculum:

Communicative Approach: Focuses on real-life communication scenarios, building conversational fluency from the start.

Multimedia Learning: Combines video demonstrations, interactive exercises, and supplementary materials for a comprehensive learning experience.

Gradual Progression: Introduces new signs and grammatical concepts progressively, ensuring a manageable learning curve.

Emphasis on Fluency: Prioritizes natural sign language flow and rhythm over strict grammatical accuracy in early stages.

Cultural Sensitivity: Integrates aspects of Deaf culture and communication etiquette.

How Signing Naturally Differs from Other ASL Learning Methods

Many ASL learning methods exist, but "Signing Naturally" distinguishes itself through its focus on natural communication. Other methods might prioritize a more formal, grammatical approach, potentially hindering conversational fluency in the early stages. "Signing Naturally" streamlines the learning process, allowing you to quickly begin expressing yourself in sign language. This makes it particularly suitable for beginners who desire rapid progress and practical application. The immersive nature of the videos and the emphasis on interaction makes it a more engaging and enjoyable experience for many learners.

Utilizing the Signing Naturally Resources Effectively:

Consistent Practice: Regular study sessions, even short ones, are key to mastering ASL. Aim for daily practice to reinforce learning.

Active Participation: Don't just watch the videos passively. Actively sign along, mimic the handshapes, and practice the facial expressions.

Find a Language Partner: Practicing with a native signer or fellow student is crucial for improving fluency and accuracy.

Immerse Yourself: Seek opportunities to interact with the Deaf community to apply your skills in real-world situations.

Utilize Online Resources: Many supplementary resources and communities exist online to further support your learning.

Level Progression in Signing Naturally

The "Signing Naturally" curriculum is typically structured across several levels, gradually building upon previously learned concepts. Each level introduces new vocabulary, grammatical structures, and more complex conversational skills. This structured approach ensures a smooth and progressive learning journey, preventing information overload and maximizing retention. The progression isn't just about adding more signs; it's about deepening your understanding of ASL grammar, sentence structure, and cultural nuances.

Beyond the Textbooks: Expanding Your ASL Knowledge

While the "Signing Naturally" textbooks and videos are excellent foundational resources, remember that language learning is an ongoing process. Supplement your studies with additional resources

such as:

Online ASL Dictionaries: Utilize online resources like Lifeprint.com to look up new signs and review existing vocabulary.

ASL Apps: Several apps offer interactive ASL lessons and practice exercises.

Deaf Culture Events: Attend local events and gatherings to immerse yourself in the Deaf community and practice your skills.

Online ASL Communities: Engage with other learners and native signers in online forums and communities.

Conclusion

"Signing Naturally" provides a highly effective and engaging pathway to mastering American Sign Language. Its communicative approach, multimedia resources, and structured progression make it an ideal choice for beginners and experienced learners alike. By actively engaging with the materials and seeking opportunities for practice, you can unlock the rewarding world of sign language communication and connect with the Deaf community on a deeper level. Remember, consistent practice and immersion are key to success. Embrace the journey, and enjoy the process of learning this beautiful and expressive language.

FAQs

1. Is Signing Naturally suitable for complete beginners? Absolutely! The curriculum is designed for beginners and gradually introduces new concepts, making it accessible to individuals with no prior ASL experience.
2. How long does it take to complete the Signing Naturally curriculum? The timeframe varies depending on individual learning pace and commitment. However, completing all levels typically takes several months or even years, depending on the intensity of study.
3. Are there different versions of Signing Naturally? Yes, there are different versions tailored for various needs, such as versions specifically focused on healthcare or educational settings.
4. Can I learn Signing Naturally independently, or do I need a teacher? While you can learn independently using the materials, having an instructor or a language partner can significantly enhance your learning experience and progress.
5. Where can I purchase the Signing Naturally materials? The materials are generally available through educational bookstores, online retailers, and directly from the publishers. Check with your local community college or university, as they may also offer the course.

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signing naturally: The Sign for Home Blair Fell, 2023-03-14 Arlo Dilly is young, handsome and eager to meet the right girl. He also happens to be DeafBlind, a Jehovah's Witness, and under the strict guardianship of his controlling uncle. His chances of finding someone to love seem slim to none. And yet, it happened once before: many years ago, at a boarding school for the Deaf, Arlo met the love of his life—a mysterious girl with onyx eyes and beautifully expressive hands which told him the most amazing stories. But tragedy struck, and their love was lost forever. Or so Arlo thought. After years trying to heal his broken heart, Arlo is assigned a college writing assignment which unlocks buried memories of his past. Soon he wonders if the hearing people he was supposed to trust have been lying to him all along, and if his lost love might be found again. No longer willing to accept what others tell him, Arlo convinces a small band of misfit friends to set off on a journey to learn the truth. After all, who better to bring on this quest than his gay interpreter and wildly inappropriate Belgian best friend? Despite the many forces working against him, Arlo will stop at nothing to find the girl who got away and experience all of life's joyful possibilities--

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signing naturally: Glucose Revolution Jessie Inchauspe, 2022-04-05 USA TODAY BESTSELLER * WALL STREET JOURNAL BESTSELLER * INSTANT INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER Improve all areas of your health—your sleep, cravings, mood, energy, skin, weight—and even slow down aging with easy, science-based hacks to manage your blood sugar while still eating the foods you love. Glucose, or blood sugar, is a tiny molecule in our body that has a huge impact on our health. It enters our bloodstream through the starchy or sweet foods we eat. Ninety percent of us suffer from too much glucose in our system—and most of us don't know it. The symptoms? Cravings, fatigue, infertility, hormonal issues, acne, wrinkles... And over time, the development of conditions like type 2 diabetes, polycystic ovarian syndrome, cancer, dementia, and heart disease. Drawing on cutting-edge science and her own pioneering research, biochemist Jessie Inchauspé offers ten simple, surprising hacks to help you balance your glucose levels and reverse your symptoms—without going on a diet or giving up the foods you love. For example: * How eating foods in the right order will make you lose weight effortlessly * What secret ingredient will allow you to eat dessert and still go into fat-burning mode * What small change to your breakfast will unlock energy and cut your cravings Both entertaining, informative, and packed with the latest scientific data, this book presents a new way to think about better health. Glucose Revolution is chock-full of tips that can drastically and immediately improve your life, whatever your dietary preferences.

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•2020 Jane Addams Children's Book Award Finalist •2020 New England Independent Booksellers Award Finalist Deaf author Ann Clare LeZotte weaves a riveting story inspired by the true history of a thriving deaf community on Martha's Vineyard in the early 19th century. This piercing exploration of ableism, racism, and colonialism will inspire readers to examine core beliefs and question what is considered normal. * A must-read. -- Kirkus Reviews, starred review More than just a page-turner. Well researched and spare... sensitive... relevant. -- Newbery Medalist, Meg Medina for the New York Times A triumph. -- Brian Selznick, creator of Wonderstruck and the Caldecott Award winner, The Invention of Hugo Cabret * Will enthrall readers, but her internal journey...profound. -- The Horn Book, starred review * Expertly crafted...exceptionally written. -- School Library Journal, starred review * Engrossing. -- Publishers Weekly, starred review This book blew me away. -- Alex Gino, Stonewall Award-winning author of George Spend time in Mary's world. You'll be better for it. -- Erin Entrada Kelly, author of the Newbery Award Winner, Hello, Universe Mary Lambert has always felt safe and protected on her beloved island of Martha's Vineyard. Her great-great-grandfather was an early English settler and the first deaf islander. Now, over a hundred years later, many people there -- including Mary -- are deaf, and nearly everyone can communicate in sign language. Mary has never felt isolated. She is proud of her lineage. But recent events have delivered winds of change. Mary's brother died, leaving her family shattered. Tensions over land disputes are mounting between English settlers and the Wampanoag people. And a cunning young scientist has arrived, hoping to discover the origin of the island's prevalent deafness. His maniacal drive to find answers soon renders Mary a live specimen in a cruel experiment. Her struggle to save herself is at the core of this penetrating and poignant novel that probes our perceptions of ability and disability.

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gender studies, the leading international contributors to *King Lear: New Critical Essays* offer major new interpretations on the conception and writing, editing, and cultural productions of *King Lear*. This book is an up-to-date and comprehensive anthology of textual scholarship, performance research, and critical writing on one of Shakespeare's most important and perplexing tragedies. Contributors Include: R.A. Foakes, Richard Knowles, Tom Clayton, Cynthia Clegg, Edward L. Rocklin, Christy Desmet, Paul Cantor, Robert V. Young, Stanley Stewart and Jean R. Brink

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signing naturally: *Lord of the Flies* William Golding, 2012-09-20 A plane crashes on a desert island and the only survivors, a group of schoolboys, assemble on the beach and wait to be rescued. By day they inhabit a land of bright fantastic birds and dark blue seas, but at night their dreams are haunted by the image of a terrifying beast. As the boys' delicate sense of order fades, so their childish dreams are transformed into something more primitive, and their behaviour starts to take on a murderous, savage significance. First published in 1954, *Lord of the Flies* is one of the most celebrated and widely read of modern classics. Now fully revised and updated, this educational edition includes chapter summaries, comprehension questions, discussion points, classroom activities, a biographical profile of Golding, historical context relevant to the novel and an essay on *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding entitled 'Fable'. Aimed at Key Stage 3 and 4 students, it also includes a section on literary theory for advanced or A-level students. The educational edition encourages original and independent thinking while guiding the student through the text - ideal for use in the classroom and at home.

signing naturally: *PlantYou* Carleigh Bodrug, 2022 Tacos, pizza, wings, pasta, hearty soups, and crave-worthy greens-for some folks looking for a healthier way of eating, these dishes might all

seem, well, off the table. Carleigh Bodrug has shown hundreds of thousands of people that that just isn't true. Like so many of us, Carleigh thought that eating healthy meant preparing the same chicken breast and broccoli dinner every night. Her skin and belly never felt great, but she thought she was eating well--until a family health scare forced her to take a hard look at her diet and start cooking and sharing recipes. Fast forward, and her @plantyou brand continues to grow and grow, reaching +470k followers in just a few short years. Her secret? Easy, accessible recipes that don't require any special ingredients, tools, or know-how; what really makes her recipes stand out are the helpful infographics that accompany them, which made it easy for readers to measure ingredients, determine portion size, and become comfortable enough to personalize recipes to their tastes. Now in her debut cookbook, Carleigh redefines what it means to enjoy a plant-based lifestyle with delicious, everyday recipes that anyone can make and enjoy. With mouthwatering dishes like Bewitchin' Breakfast Cookies, Rainbow Summer Rolls, Irish Stew, and Tahini Chocolate Chip Cookies, this cookbook fits all tastes and budgets. PlantYou is perfect for beginner cooks, those wishing to experiment with a plant-based lifestyle, and the legions of flexitarians who just want to be healthy and enjoy their meals--

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psychology, cultural studies, technology, and the arts. With the acknowledgment of signed languages all over the world as bona fide languages, the perception of Deaf people has evolved into the recognition and acceptance of a vibrant Deaf culture centered around the use of signed languages and the communities of Deaf peoples. Written by Deaf and hearing authors with extensive teaching experience and immersion in Deaf cultures and signed languages, Deaf Culture fills a niche as an introductory textbook that is more inclusive, accessible, and straightforward for those beginning their studies of the Deaf-World. New to the Second Edition: *A new co-author, Topher González Ávila, MA *Two new chapters! Chapter 7 "Deaf Communities Within the Deaf Community" highlights the complex variations within this community Chapter 10 "Deaf People and the Legal System: Education, Employment, and Criminal Justice" underscores linguistic and access rights *The remaining chapters have been significantly updated to reflect current trends and new information, such as: Advances in technology created by Deaf people that influence and enhance their lives within various national and international societies Greater emphasis on different perspectives within Deaf culture Information about legal issues and recent political action by Deaf people New information on how Deaf people are making breakthroughs in the entertainment industry Addition of new vignettes, examples, pictures, and perspectives to enhance content interest for readers and facilitate instructor teaching Introduction of theories explained in a practical and reader-friendly manner to ensure understanding An updated introduction to potential opportunities for professional and informal involvement in ASL/Deaf culture with children, youth, and adults Key Features: *Strong focus on including different communities within Deaf cultures *Thought-provoking questions, illustrative vignettes, and examples *Theories introduced and explained in a practical and reader-friendly manner

signing naturally: For Hearing People Only Matthew S. Moore, Linda Levitan, 1993 Ever asked (or heard) these questions: Don't all deaf people read lips? Is it OK to say 'deaf-mute' & 'deaf-&-dumb'? Do all deaf people benefit from hearing aids? Ever wondered where you could find answers to these & others, in a nontechnical, easy-to-use format? FOR HEARING PEOPLE ONLY fills this gap. It presupposes no prior acquaintance with Deaf Studies, sign language, or any Deaf knowledge at all, & is written in a simple, clear, entertaining style. As the deaf co-authors write: Hearing people--those with normal hearing--do not think of themselves as being 'hearing people.' They see themselves as people. You are the insiders. To you, we deaf people are the outsiders. You call us 'deaf people.' But we deaf people see non-deaf people as the outsiders--'hearing people.' To deaf people, the non-deaf majority are 'hearing people.' Without doubt, there is a need for such a book. FOR HEARING PEOPLE ONLY is intended for students & laypeople (like you). Prepaid orders only to: HPO Book, 85 Farragut Street, Dept. RB, Rochester, NY 14611-2845. \$14.95 ppd., NY residents add \$1.05 sales tax.

signing naturally: Signing Exact English Gerilee Gustason, Esther Zawolkow, 1993 A comprehensive visual guide for signing English words for beginning to advanced signers.

signing naturally: Deaf Gain H-Dirksen L. Bauman, Joseph J. Murray, 2014-10-15 Deaf people are usually regarded by the hearing world as having a lack, as missing a sense. Yet a definition of deaf people based on hearing loss obscures a wealth of ways in which societies have benefited from the significant contributions of deaf people. In this bold intervention into ongoing debates about disability and what it means to be human, experts from a variety of disciplines—neuroscience, linguistics, bioethics, history, cultural studies, education, public policy, art, and architecture—advance the concept of Deaf Gain and challenge assumptions about what is normal. Through their in-depth articulation of Deaf Gain, the editors and authors of this pathbreaking volume approach deafness as a distinct way of being in the world, one which opens up perceptions, perspectives, and insights that are less common to the majority of hearing persons. For example, deaf individuals tend to have unique capabilities in spatial and facial recognition, peripheral processing, and the detection of images. And users of sign language, which neuroscientists have shown to be biologically equivalent to speech, contribute toward a robust range of creative expression and understanding. By framing deafness in terms of its intellectual, creative, and cultural

benefits, Deaf Gain recognizes physical and cognitive difference as a vital aspect of human diversity. Contributors: David Armstrong; Benjamin Bahan, Gallaudet U; Hansel Bauman, Gallaudet U; John D. Bonvillian, U of Virginia; Alison Bryan; Teresa Blankmeyer Burke, Gallaudet U; Cindee Calton; Debra Cole; Matthew Dye, U of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Steve Emery; Ofelia García, CUNY; Peter C. Hauser, Rochester Institute of Technology; Geo Kartheiser; Caroline Kobek Pezzarossi; Christopher Krentz, U of Virginia; Annelies Kusters; Irene W. Leigh, Gallaudet U; Elizabeth M. Lockwood, U of Arizona; Summer Loeffler; Mara Lúcia Massuti, Instituto Federal de Santa Catarina, Brazil; Donna A. Morere, Gallaudet U; Kati Morton; Ronice Müller de Quadros, U Federal de Santa Catarina, Brazil; Donna Jo Napoli, Swarthmore College; Jennifer Nelson, Gallaudet U; Laura-Ann Petitto, Gallaudet U; Suvi Pylvänen, Kymenlaakso U of Applied Sciences; Antti Raike, Aalto U; Päivi Rainò, U of Applied Sciences Humak; Katherine D. Rogers; Clara Sherley-Appel; Kristin Snoddon, U of Alberta; Karin Strobel, U Federal de Santa Catarina, Brazil; Hilary Sutherland; Rachel Sutton-Spence, U of Bristol, England; James Tabery, U of Utah; Jennifer Grinder Witteborg; Mark Zaurov.

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encyclopaedia for scholarship and literary style.

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signing naturally: Signing Naturally Ken Mikos, 2001

signing naturally: Educational Interpreting Elizabeth A. Winston, 2004 This incisive book explores the current state of educational interpreting and how it is failing deaf students. The contributors, all renowned experts in their field, include former educational interpreters, teachers of deaf students, interpreter trainers, and deaf recipients of interpreted educations. Educational Interpreting presents the salient issues in three distinct sections. Part 1 focuses on deaf students—their perspectives on having interpreters in the classroom, the language myths that surround them, the accessibility of language to them, and their cognition. Part 2 raises questions about the support and training that interpreters receive from the school systems, the qualifications that many interpreters bring to an interpreted education, and the accessibility of everyday classrooms for deaf students placed in such environments. Part 3 presents a few of the possible suggestions for addressing the concerns of interpreted educations, and focuses primarily on the interpreter. The contributors discuss the need to (1) define the core knowledge and skills interpreters must have and (2) develop standards of practice and assessment. They also stress that interpreters cannot effect the necessary changes alone; unless and until administrators, parents, teachers, and students recognize the inherent issues of access to education through mediation, little will change for deaf students.

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