AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE · DEAF CULTURE AND MANNERS · GRADES 2–5

What Is a Name Sign?

Read about name signs and who gives them, then answer the questions.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____



Read

Many people in the Deaf community have a name sign. A name sign is a short sign that stands for one person, so friends do not have to fingerspell the whole name every time.

In Deaf culture, a name sign is given to you by a Deaf person who knows you. You do not make up your own. Until someone gives you one, you fingerspell your name.

Some name signs use the first letter of the person's name, made in a special place or with a special movement. Others show something about the person, like curly hair or a big smile.

Answer the questions.

What is a name sign?

_____

Who gives you a name sign?

_____

What do you do until you have a name sign?

_____

Name two kinds of name signs.

_____

Why are name signs handy?

_____

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ANSWER KEY · DEAF CULTURE AND MANNERS · GRADES 2–5

Answer Key: What Is a Name Sign?

Answers for grown-ups. Where kids write their own ideas, the key shows one example.



Read

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Answer the questions.

What is a name sign?

A short sign that stands for one person

Who gives you a name sign?

A Deaf person who knows you

What do you do until you have a name sign?

Fingerspell your name

Name two kinds of name signs.

First-letter signs and signs that show something about the person

Why are name signs handy?

They are faster than spelling a whole name.

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