

## Abstract

This is an invitation to take a journey into territories that may have been previously charted, but to then look through a new lens. Young children have been learning alphabetic principles to build a foundation for literacy as long as school itself has existed. How they have learned this foundational knowledge, however, and how they have been taught, has seen many changes along the way.

This proposal seeks to place a new road on the map by exploring the many avenues that using American Sign Language to enrich the teaching of the alphabetic principle may bring. Pack your bags and bring an open mind ready to explore new possibilities waiting to be discovered.

The question to be researched at this school is: What effect, if any, will the use of American Sign Language in the classroom have on the basic literacy skills and attitudes of first grade students?

