The Essential Parenting Guide- NOW COMPLETELY UPDATED AND EXPANDED! In 1982, child development experts Linda Acredolo, Ph.D., and Susan Goodwyn, Ph.D., discovered that babies can communicate with simple signs—even before they’re able to talk. The result: Baby Signs, the groundbreaking technique that has changed parenting forever. Now, with the widespread popularity of signing with hearing babies and new and exciting research findings to report, the authors have completely revised and expanded Baby Signs to create this indispensable new edition. Featuring an American Sign Language approach, as well as a set of “baby-friendly” alternatives, this comprehensive new program offers all the information any parent needs to join the hundreds of thousands of families around the world who are using Baby Signs to help their children communicate their joys and fears without tears. (Newsweek) Inside you will find . . .  

- An expanded dictionary with easy-to-follow photos of 150 ASL signs along with a set of 35 “baby-friendly” alternatives
- New research showing the benefits of Baby Signs for children’s emotional development, for the parent-child relationship, and for reducing frustration and aggression in childcare settings
- Information to help parents use the magic of Baby Signs to meet the challenges of potty training (as seen on CBS’s The Doctors)
- Real-life stories of parents achieving both stunning and heartwarming communication breakthroughs with their children

**Book Information**

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Words, Language & Grammar > Sign Language  
Family Relationships > Fatherhood  

**Customer Reviews**

The book is so reader-friendly you don’t want to put it down, just like the author’s other books Baby
Hearts and Baby Minds. I have practiced sign language and taught classes for over 25 years to adults and teens, but never until I learned about Baby Signs, did I ever think about using sign language with babies. I am teaching my 13 month old granddaughter sign language. She can speak 4 words, mommy, daddy, Nana and flag. She knows 12 signs and can use them so that everyone knows what she wants. Friends are so surprised to see such a small baby signing. When you see her face fill with pride when she realizes that we understand her is worth the world. The glossary at the end of the book is wonderful, with 150 ASL signs and it includes 35 classic “baby-friendly” alternatives. I recommend this book to anyone who has contact with babies, grandparents, child care providers and of course parents. What a great baby shower gift!

I am mother to a hearing twenty one month old and we started signing with him at about 6 months of age. We own both the 2nd and 3rd edition of this book and both are worth every penny!! A couple of highlights of this 3rd edition include using sign language for potty training and the expanded Baby Signs dictionary. We are incorporating the "new" signs from this book as we venture into potty training ourselves, we are also learning our colors and working on the alphabet. Since we have been using sign language with him for so long we have found our son learns to say words quickly after learning the sign. For example, he started saying "red" a day after he learned the sign for red, same with blue, yellow and green. This book is a must have for all parents looking to communicate with their pre-verbal babies, for families who are potty training, and those who love teaching their children something new.

I just got the new edition and I love it! Easy to read. Great new applications (potty training). And as a former teacher...I loved the flexibility of both the ASL and baby friendly signs and knowing why signing is a good thing for babies. I really believe this has something for every young family no matter which signs they choose to use! The expanded ASL dictionary in the back of the book is wonderful. I can't wait to get my FREE DVD- ASL dictionary.

I grew tired of this book quickly. The first half of the book is simply talking about WHY you should sign with your child, you don't need to convince me, I ALREADY BOUGHT THE BOOK! It goes on about research and history and doesn't get into the how for quite some time. I'm a new mom, I don't have time to read the fluff, give me the important stuff, nap time is only so long and I gotta get in what I can! The "dictionary" of signs will be useful, but I was disappointed in the style the book was written in.
I felt like this book did a really great job of telling you WHY you should sign with your baby, which I was already sold on before buying this book. I expected a little more instruction on the HOW of getting signing with my son, but this book still provided a lot of useful signs to get started with and further convinced me that signing is something we’d like to do.

Sometimes, you get an "updated" version of the book and nothing has changed. However, that is not true in this case. The authors, Dr. Linda Acredolo and Dr. Susan Goodwyn, have really gone out of their way to make this an actual updated version. The glossary of signs has been greatly expanded to 150 ASL signs and 35 baby-friendly signs. The glossary separates the two so there is no confusion as to which is ASL. The glossary photos and explanations of the signs are clear and easy to figure out what the sign is. The book is easy to read and has many interesting stories about signing babies and toddlers. It also has text boxes with stories, helpful information or answers to pressing questions. These all help to make the book visually appealing. This edition also includes information about using signs with potty training and gives helpful hints as to how to potty train your toddler. The book also comes with a video dictionary demonstrating all 185 signs that is free of charge, except for shipping and handling charges. All in all, this book is an excellent resource for those who want to sign with babies and toddlers. Even if you have a previous edition, this 3rd edition is well worth the price.

I bought this book in 1996 and my daughter is now 15. She did her first signs at 4 months old - "more" and "cat". It is wonderful to have a child that never cries! With the ability to communicate, she did not need to cry. She learned over 80 signs before she was 2 and then full, complete sentences took over. We made signs up as needed. I buy this book for all new parents. I cannot tell you enough how valuable I feel this was to the overall intelligence of my child. She is thriving and excelling in everything she does. We included baby signs in everything we did and we had a child who was able to completely communicate to us and share her world from a very young age. BUY IT!

This book was more about the research/background on baby signing rather than showing strong pictures/visuals to learn and teach you little one baby signs. Not what I expected or was looking for.

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