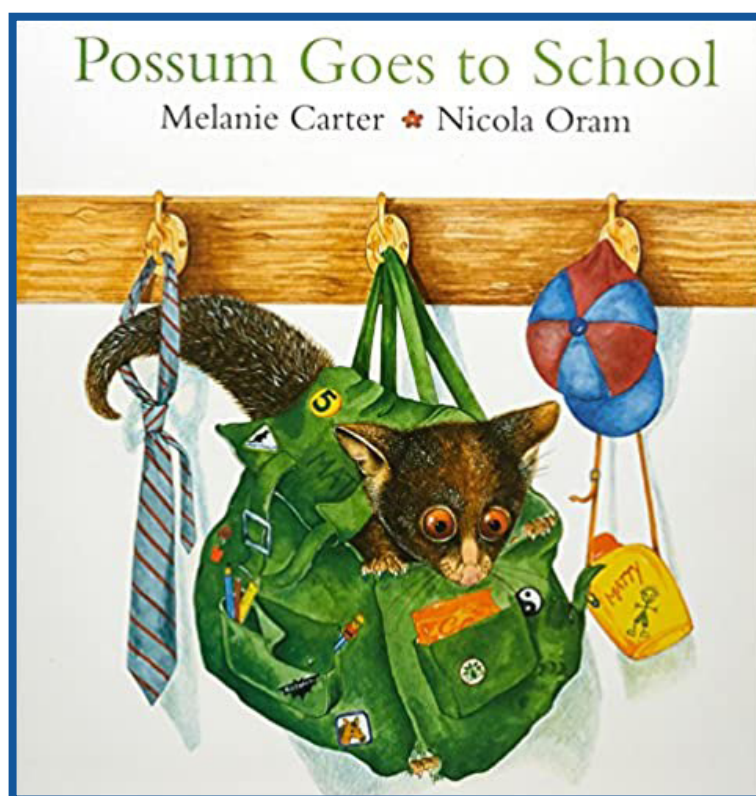


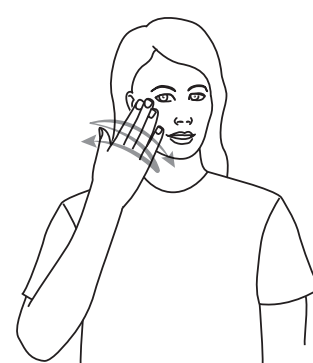
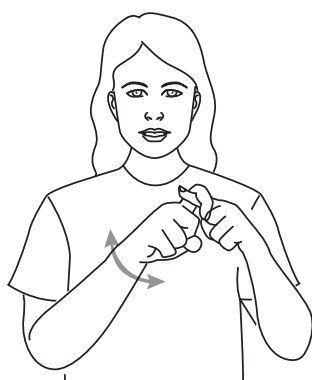


Key Word Sign™
Australia



Possum Goes to School

Key Word Sign Guide (Nationwide)

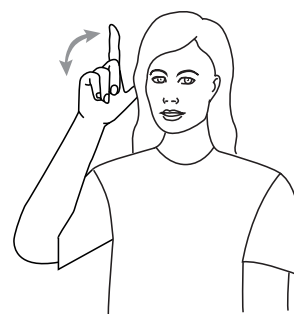
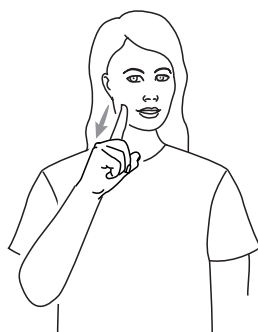
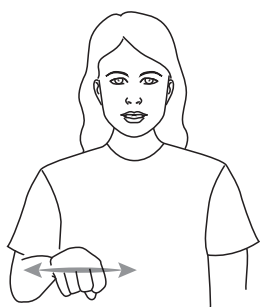




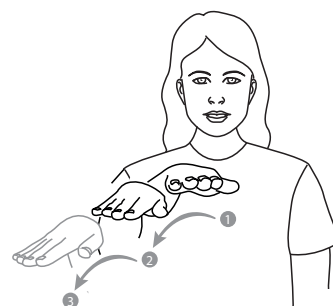
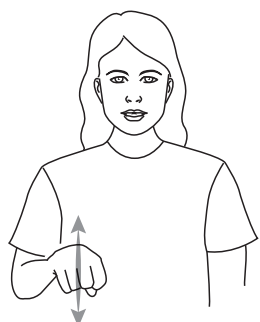
There's a **possum** in the **classroom**



and he's **hiding** in the **cupboard**.



“Oh, no!” **cried** the **teacher**.



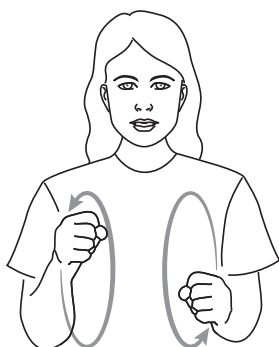
“Yes, yes!” **screamed** the **children**.



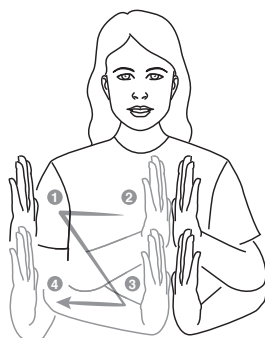
RATTLE, RATTLE went the **ruler**.



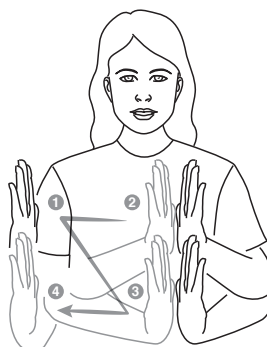
“Screech, screech!” went the **possum**



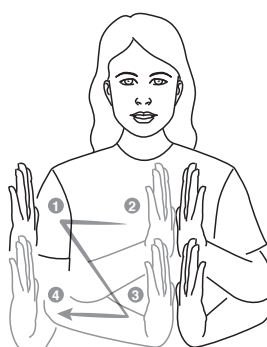
as he **ran into** the ...



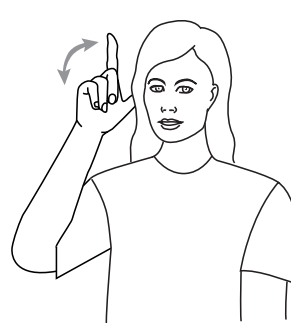
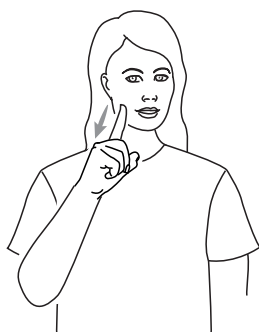
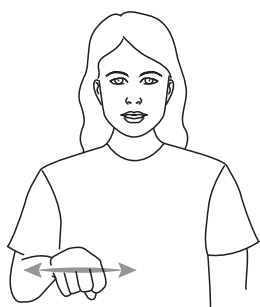
LIBRARY!



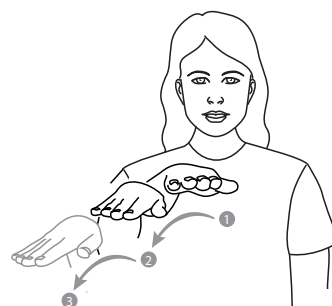
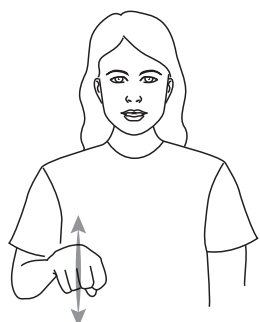
There's a **possum** in the **library**



And he's **hiding** in the **bookshelves**.



“Oh, no!” cried the **teacher**.



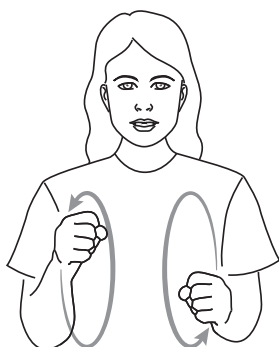
“Yes, yes!” screamed the **children**.



RIP, RIP went the **atlas**.



“Screech, screech!” went the **possum**



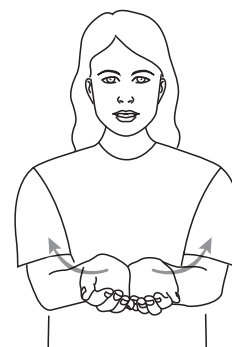
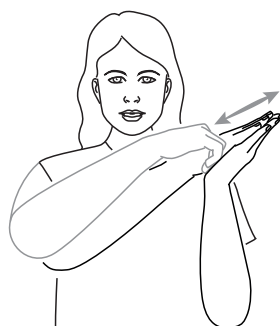
as he **ran into** the ...



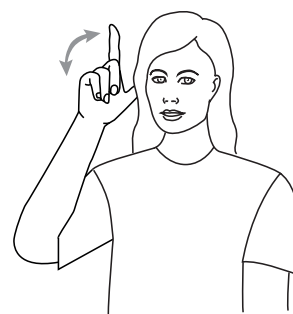
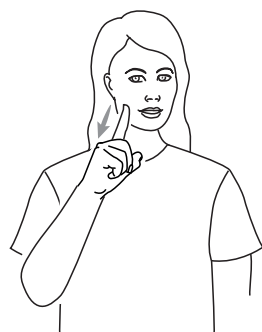
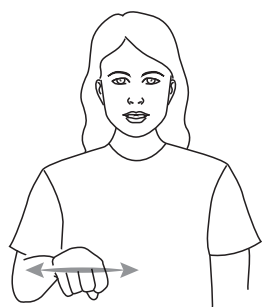
ART ROOM!



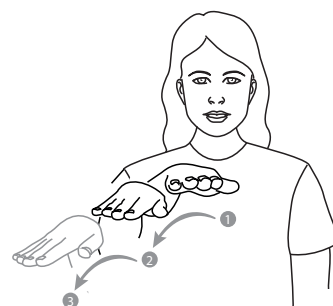
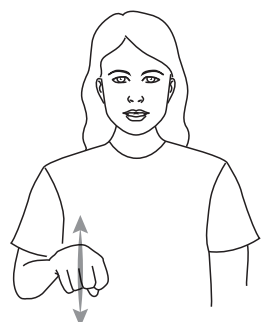
There's a **possum** in the **art room**



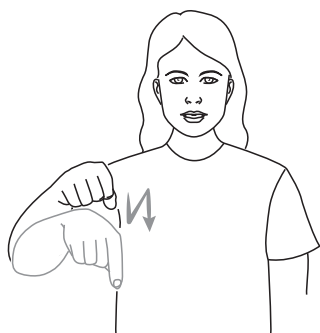
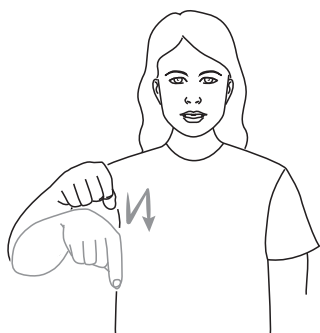
And he's **hiding** in the **paint pots**.



"Oh, no!" cried the **teacher**.



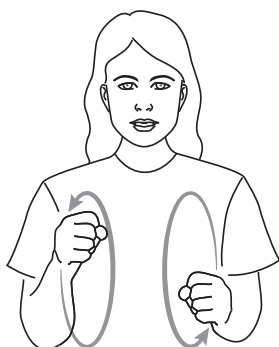
"Yes, yes!" screamed the **children**.



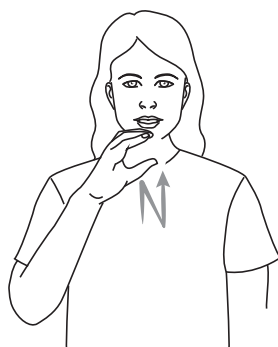
DRIP, DRIP went the **paints**.



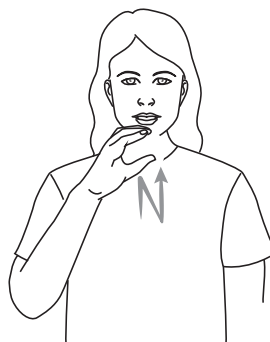
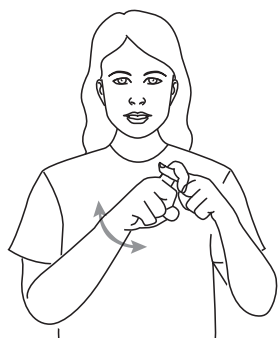
“Screech, screech!” went the **possum**



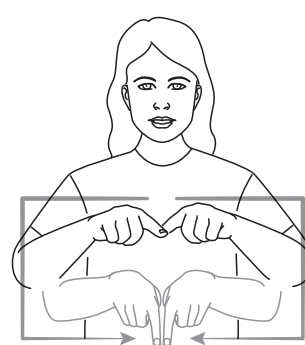
as he **ran into** the ...



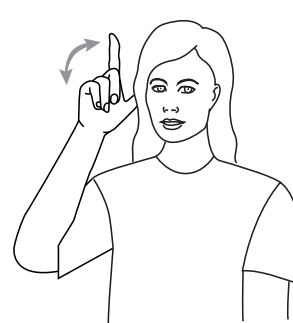
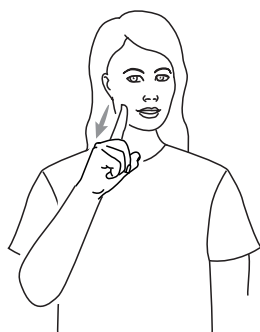
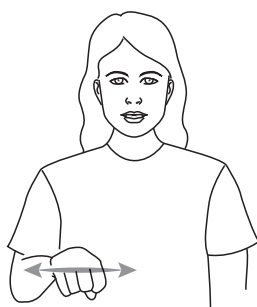
TUCKSHOP!



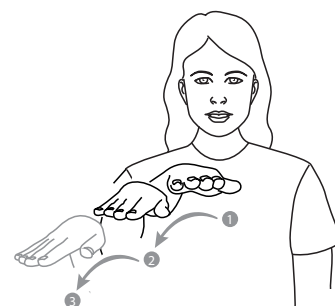
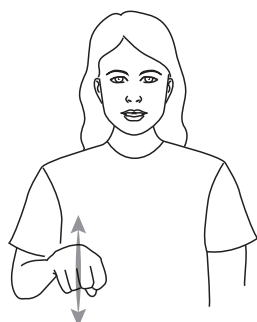
There's a **possum** in the **tuckshop**



And he's **hiding** in the **cake tray**.



"**Oh, no!**" **cried** the **teacher**.



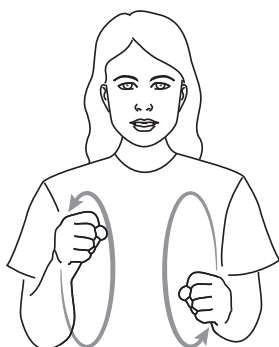
"**Yes, yes!**" **screamed** the **children**.



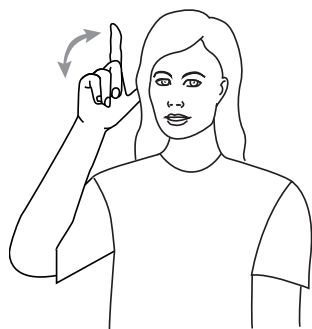
CRUMBLE, CRUMBLE went the **cup-cakes**.



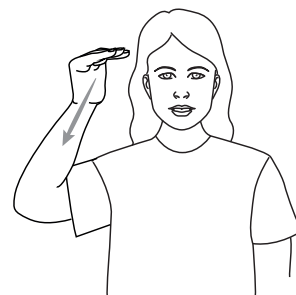
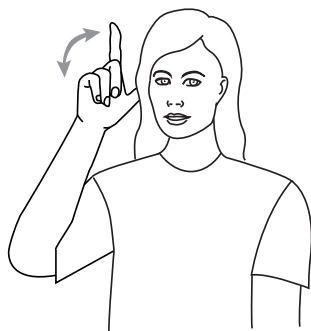
“Screech, screech!” went the **possum**



as he **ran into** the...



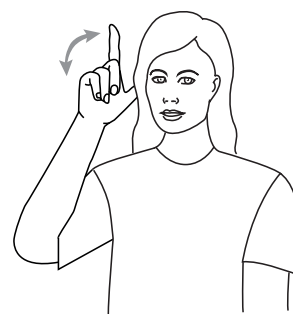
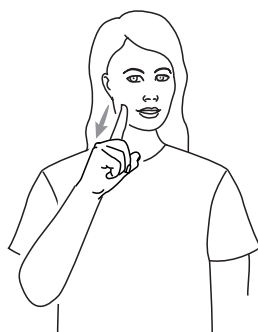
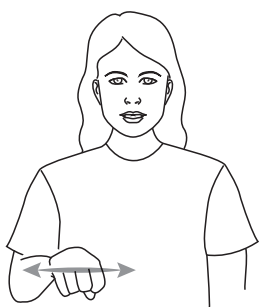
STAFF ROOM!



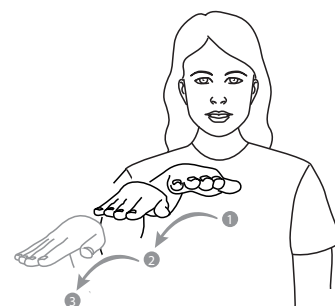
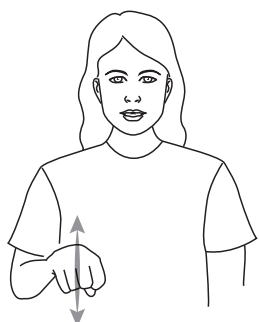
There's a **possum** in the **staff room**



and he's **underneath** a **chair**.



"Oh, no!" cried the **teacher**.



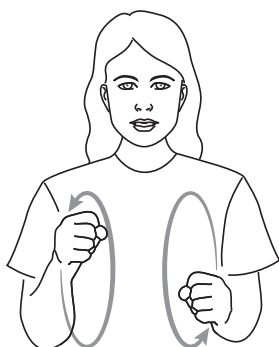
"Yes, yes!" screamed the **children**.



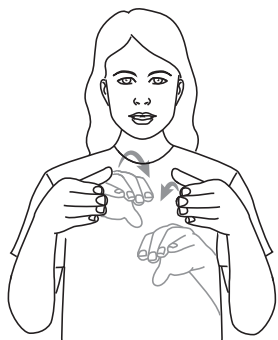
SCRATCH, SCRATCH went the **claws**.



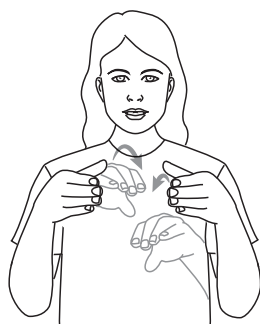
“Screech, screech!” went the **possum**



as he **ran into** the ...



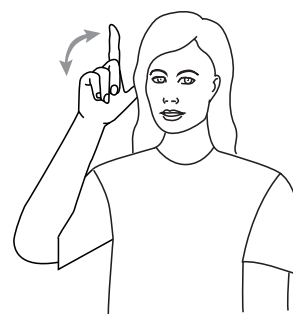
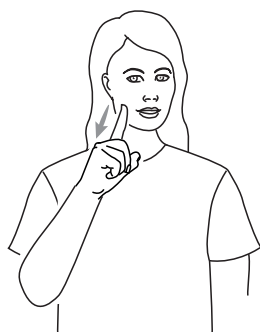
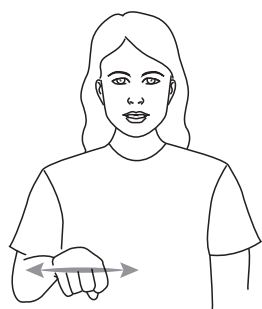
SCIENCE ROOM!



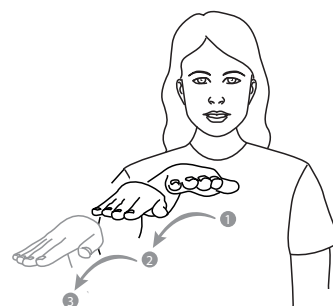
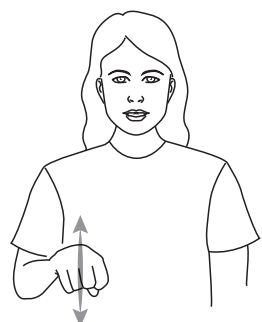
There's a **possum** in the **science room**



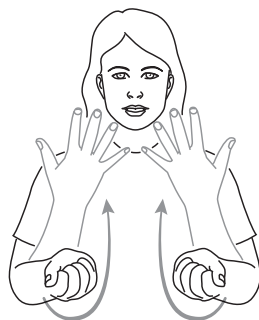
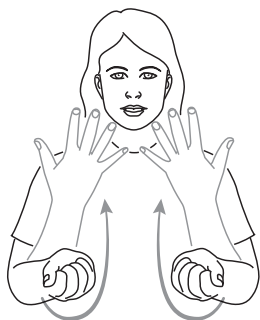
and he's **hiding** by the **fish bowl**.



"Oh, no!" cried the **teacher**.



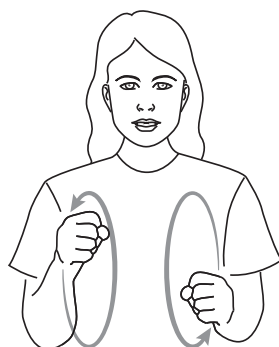
"Yes, yes!" screamed the **children**.



SPLASH, SPLASH went the **goldfish**.



“Screech, screech!” went the **possum**



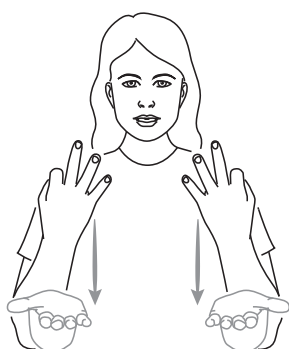
as he **ran into** the ...



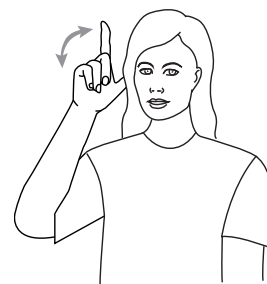
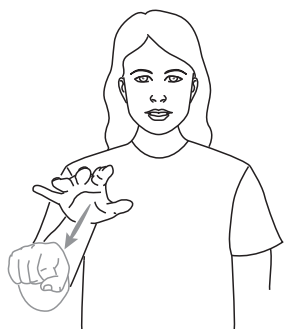
SPORTS ROOM!



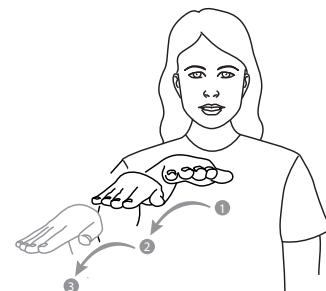
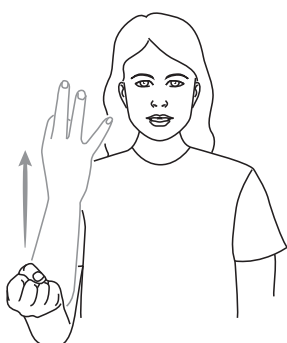
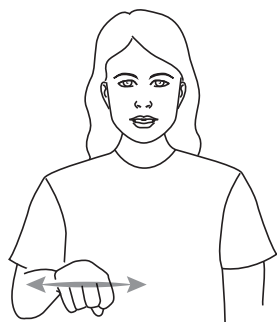
There's a **possum** in the **sports room**



but there's **nowhere** for him to **hide**.



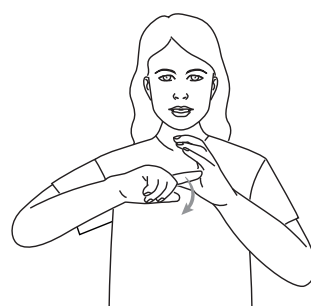
"Got you!" yelled the teacher.



"No you haven't!" screamed the children.



northern

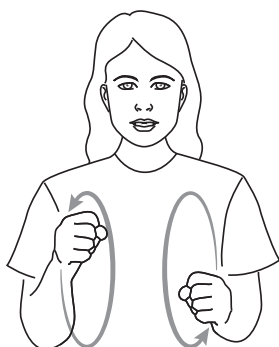


southern

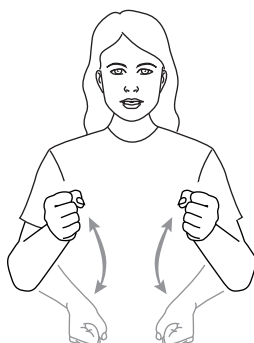
BOUNCE, BOUNCE went the **ball**.



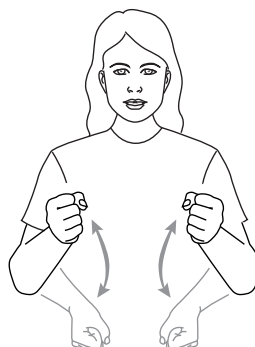
“Screech, screech!” went the **possum**



as he **ran into** the ...



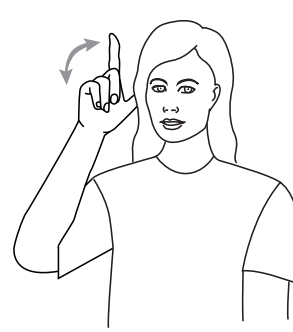
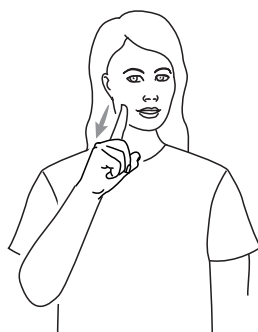
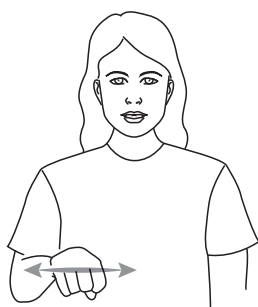
PLAYGROUND!



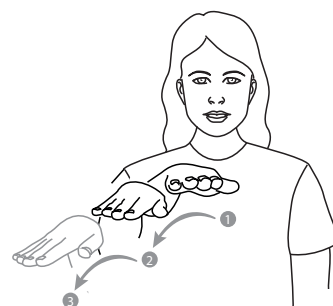
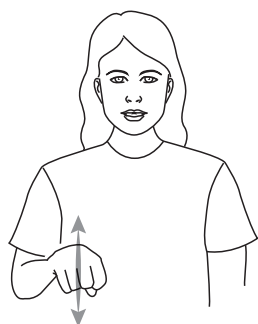
There's a **possum** in the **playground**



and he's just **climbed** up a **tree**.



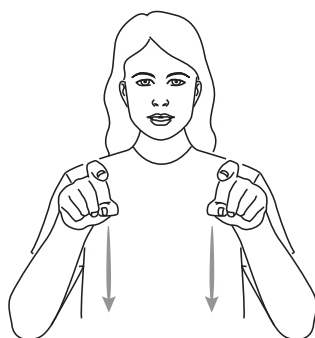
“Oh, no!” sighed the **teacher**.



“Yes, yes!” screamed the **children**.



PANT, PANT went the **possum**.



So, we **left him there**.

Key Word Sign Guide



Key Word Sign™
Australia

ART

Hold open non-dominant hand with palm facing up in front of body. Extend middle finger, index and thumb of dominant hand and move this formation around non-dominant palm, moving extended fingers slightly.



ATLAS (BOOK)

Place flat open hands together, move hands to palm up keeping them together. Can be done once or twice.



BALL

(NORTHERN)
Cup both hands, fingers spread. Bounce fingertips as if surrounding ball shape. (Can be varied for size of ball) (NSW, QLD)



BALL

(SOUTHERN)
Cup non-dominant hand fingers spread. Rotate index finger of dominant hand forward on palm of non-dominant hand. (Vic, SA, WA, NT, Tas)



BOOKSHELVES

Place palms of both hands together at upper chest height of non-dominant side, fingers pointing up. Move dominant hand to dominant side of body. Lower hands and repeat.



BOUNCE

Mime umpire bouncing ball. (Natural gesture) OR Clench dominant hand. Bounce this formation down and up from open non-dominant hand, palm up, held at waist height.



BOWL

Slightly cup both hands, blades touching, and hold in front of body. Move hands apart in small upward arc to represent outline of bowl.



CAKE / CUP-CAKE

Bounce tips of cupped dominant hand, fingers slightly spread, on back of non-dominant hand, twice.



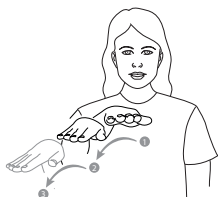
CHAIR

Place fingertips of open dominant hand, bent at the third knuckles, into palm of open non-dominant hand. Move formation downwards slightly, in front of body.



CHILDREN

Move open dominant hand, palm down, to the side in a bouncing movement. Move hand down as it bounces.



CLASS

Hold open or cup hands together and place in front of body, palms facing away from body, thumbs touching. Move hands in arcs to finish with edges of little fingers touching and palms toward body. *Another option is to use extended index fingers and thumbs to form "C".



CLAWS

Raise both hands to shoulder height, fingers curled and palms facing forward. Drop both hands at the wrist to palm facing down.



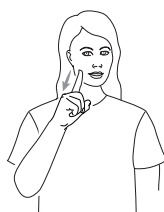
CLIMBED

Move open cupped hands to mime action of climbing. *Sign may be varied for ladder, tree, etc.



CRIED (SAY)

Move tip of extended dominant index finger forward away from mouth.



CRUMBLE

Hold both hands at chest height with fingertips and thumbs touching, palms up. Slide thumbs across fingertips starting from little finger and moving towards index finger.



Key Word Sign Guide



Key Word Sign™
Australia

CUPBOARD

Mime opening cupboard doors.



DRIP

Make an 'O' shape with index finger and thumb of dominant hand. Palm facing down. Flick index finger off thumb and release several times. Whole hand drops down slightly with each flick.



GOLDFISH (FISH)

Move open dominant hand, thumb uppermost, away from the body, using small side to side movements.



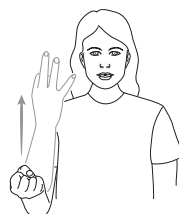
GOT YOU! (GRAB)

Extend dominant hand with palm down and fingers spread. Close fingers into a fist as formation moves forward slightly.



HAVEN'T

Hold dominant fist at waist height, palm facing up. Simultaneously raise arm and extend middle, ring and little finger. Keep index finger and thumb connected in an 'O' shape.



HIDE / HIDING

Raise both flat hands with fingers together and palms facing. Dominant hand is higher than non-dominant. Bring dominant hand behind and in line with non-dominant hand, palms facing opposite directions.



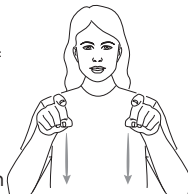
INTO (GO)

Hold flat dominant hand close to body, palm facing in. Swing hand out. *With directionality.



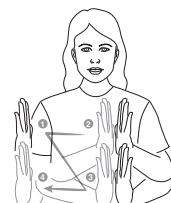
LEFT HIM THERE (STAY)

Extend index fingers of both hands and crook at second knuckle. Hold at sides of body at shoulder height, palms down. Drop both formations straight down to waist height.



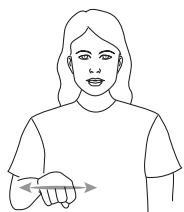
LIBRARY

Place palms of both hands together at upper chest height of non-dominant side, fingers pointing up. Move dominant hand to dominant side of body. Lower hands and repeat.



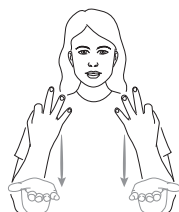
NO

Shake dominant fist, palm down, sideways in front of body.



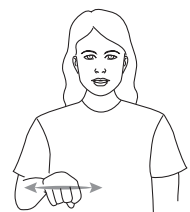
NOWHERE

Form an 'O' with index finger and thumb of each hand. Hold at chest height with palms facing body. Simultaneously drop both hands to waist height with fingers open and palms facing up.



OH NO! (NO)

Shake dominant fist, palm down, sideways in front of body.



PAINT/S

Move index and middle finger tips of dominant hand back and forward along palm of open non-dominant hand.



PANT (BREATHE)

Dominant hand flat on chest with fingers spread. Maintaining shape, move formation forward away from chest and back to chest, once.



PLAYGROUND

Hold both fists at sides of body. Move hands, arms and body in slight swinging motion (natural gesture).



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POSSUM

Extend index fingers of both hands. Crook dominant finger slightly and rest it on tip of non-dominant finger. Swing dominant hand backwards and forwards, twice without losing contact with non-dominant finger.



POTS (BOWL)

Slightly cup both hands, blades touching, and hold in front of body. Move hands apart in small upward arc to represent outline of bowl.



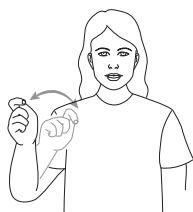
RAN

Move fists in alternate forward circles, as if running (natural gesture - mime the action).



RATTLE

Curl index finger of dominant hand over thumb, close other fingers. Shake formation from side to side multiple times.



RIP

Wrap index finger over thumb in both hands, close other fingers. Hold formations at midline with fingers touching. Roll one hand forward and pull one hand back, like tearing paper (Natural gesture - mime the action).



ROOM

Place dominant hand at head height, palm toward centre, fingers bent at third knuckles, thumb on edge of index finger. Move formation away from body slightly.



RULER

Extend flat dominant hand, palm down in front of body. Extend index finger of dominant hand and trace a line in front of non-dominant forearm, from wrist to fingertips.



SCIENCE

Make open cup shapes with both hands in front of body. Move hands alternately as if pouring liquid into a test tube.



SCRATCH

Raise dominant hand to shoulder height, fingers curled and palms facing forward. Drop hand at the wrist to palm facing down.



SCREAMED (YELL)

Form a 'C' in dominant hand with index finger and thumb. Place thumb at corner of mouth, palm facing midline. Move formation away from mouth. Use emphasis show intensity of sound.



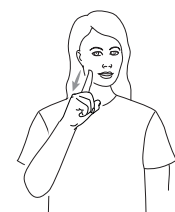
SCREECH (YELL)

Make a "fist" handshape with dominant hand, place at side of mouth with palm facing forward, open hand whilst moving formation forward.



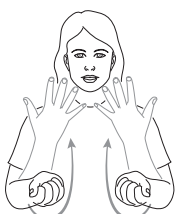
SIGHED (SAY)

Move tip of extended dominant index finger forward away from mouth.



SPLASH

Touch fingertips to thumbs in both hands. Hold at chest height with palms facing up. Lift hands and flick fingers towards face.



SPORTS

Make fists with both hands, thumbs extended. Hold them together in front of body. Move dominant hand forwards away from body and non-dominant hand backwards towards the body.



STAFF (TEACHER)

Extend dominant index finger and thumb and move this formation back and forth at the side of head.



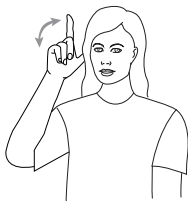
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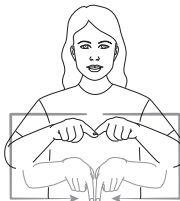
TEACHER/S

Extend dominant index finger and thumb and move this formation back and forth at the side of head.



TRAY

Extend index fingers of both hands and trace the outline of a rectangular shape in front of body.



TREE

Hold non-dominant forearm in front of body, palm down. Place elbow of dominant arm on back of non-dominant hand and shake dominant hand.



TUCKSHOP (CANTEEN)

Cup dominant hand, tap index finger on chin, twice.



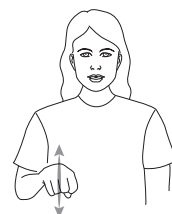
UNDERNEATH

Move relaxed open dominant hand, palm up, in a forward arc below the relaxed open non-dominant hand, palm down.



YES

Move dominant fist, palm down, up and down from the wrist.





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Carter, M. (2017). *Possum Goes to School*. (N.Oram, Illus.).
Childersset Publishers. ISBN: 978-1-74276-348-4

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