

Koolkidssign.com is a developing Web site for students who are deaf and hard of hearing, their teachers, and their peers. There is a dearth of games fully accessible to signing students. Koolkidssign.com is committed to bridging this gap by providing free, fully accessible, instructional games specifically for this population. Currently available online is the Fruit and Vegetable Alphabet Game. <a

href="http://www.games.koolkidssign.com">http://www.games.koolkidssign.com</a>

Koolkidssign games utilize the bilingual method of chaining. "Chaining is a technique used by some teachers to form a relationship between a sign, a printed word and a fingerspelled word." Padden, C and Ramsey, C. (1991). Reading Ability in Signing Deaf Children. Topics in Language Disorders, 19 (4), 30-46. Key vocabulary is presented pictorially, in sign, fingerspelling, and print forms. In some cases an auditory component reinforces sign language presentation for children with usable hearing. All games allow teachers to access and specify concepts, all include instructional suggestions, and all work with interactive whiteboards. General education teachers looking for information about children who are deaf and hard of hearing will find instructional strategies. <a

href="http://www.teachers.koolkidssign.com">http://www.teachers.koolkidssign.com</a> There are also lesson plan units for anyone to use posted (multiple weblinks not yet connected to one starting page.) Under development is a section for hearing students to facilitate communication with signing peers. <a href="http://www.koolkidssign.com">http://www.koolkidssign.com</a>. A game about colors, including a printable storybook and worksheets, will appear on the Web site shortly.

In addition to being able to preview the games, directions for making similar games and storybooks in PowerPoint will be available. <a href="http://presentations.koolkidssign.com/presentations.htm">http://presentations.koolkidssign.com/presentations.htm</a>