

Chapter 3

Signal Practice Video

.....

The *Signal Practice Video* has been provided to teach you and your child the Body Movements (Signals) that correspond to the Animal Alphabet (Letter Cards). You will find this video divided into many sections. The sections represent the Zoo-phonics teaching sequence.

Remember, you can start and stop the video. It moves quickly, but you can stop and rewind as often as needed. You will first see Gigi doing the large muscle movements (Body Signals). She repeats the Signal and Sound two times. (Your child can repeat them two or three times as s/he is first learning them.) Next, she shows, “One Sound, One Signal” which you can set as a goal for sound blending purposes in the future.



You will then see Char doing all the small Signals for older, more experienced Signalers! (Remember, you can teach your older children if they need some support in their reading and spelling skills.)



**T
I
P**

.....
: When just beginning, go straight to the first section which shows the Animals :
: sitting on top of the letters as well as showing you each Body Signal. Sit the :
: whole family down and learn them together. Everyone's support in the family :
: will escalate your child's learning (even Grandma's and Grandpa's!) :
.....

You can skip this section for now so you can move on to the Sound Blending Section (“Sound Blending with the Animals, Consonant-Vowel-Consonant”). You will see Gigi and Katie (age 3) Signaling out simple words. Really watch this section because it will help you teach your child how to break words apart and put them back together.

After the CVC section, Char and several children will teach how to Signal the Blends. As the phonemic concepts become more complex, the Signals stays simple because you will use the same Animal Letter Signals as you did when you first learned the “a – z’s.” For example, “bl” is a Blend. Simply Signal Bubba Bear and say his sound, then quickly Signal Lizzy Lizard and say her sound. Voila! You’ve Signaled and Sounded a Blend! (See Chapter 13 for Blends.)

The Digraphs get a little tricky in that you will Signal two Animal Letters *at one time*. However, if you are teaching your preschooler or young kindergarten child the Digraphs, have him/her quickly Signal the first letter, then the next. This is easier than teaching a simultaneous Signal. The important thing to teach is that when s/he sees “ch,” for example, it doesn’t say, “cuh – huh,” it says, “ch” as in the word, “chip.” (See Chapter 14 for Digraph information.)

When you are ready to teach the long vowels, you can watch the Video to see how we teach the three ways to Signal a long vowel (no, made, rain). You will also see how to Signal Silent Letters and Soft Sounds. The blue *Intermediate Sound Flash Cards** are essential for this instruction, but are not included in the Parent Kit. (See Chapter 16 for more advanced phonemic concepts)

*(You can view and purchase online or see it in the catalog.)