

5 Simple Ways to Use the Bilingual Stories Bookshelf App for Families

1

Watch Together—Not Alone

Sit with your child while watching stories. Pause, point, and react—make it interactive.

Example: Pause and sign, “LOOK—DOG! RUN!” while pointing to the screen.

2

Follow Your Child’s Lead

Let your child choose stories or repeat favorites. Repetition builds language and confidence.

Example: If your child wants the same story again, follow along and add one new sign each time.

3

Make Language Visible

Use signs, gestures, and facial expressions. It’s okay if you’re learning—your effort matters.

Example: Exaggerate facial expressions for “happy,” “surprised,” or “scared.”

4

Talk About the Story

After watching, share what you saw: “What happened?” “How did they feel?” Use signs, speech, drawing, or gestures.

Example: Ask, “BOY FEEL HOW?” and show options like HAPPY or SAD.

5

Connect Stories to Real Life

Relate the story to your child’s experiences. This builds meaning and deeper language.

Example: “That’s like when we went to the park—remember the slide?”



These are some strategies Deaf parents use to read with their children. Explore more to learn different strategies from the principles that were identified and developed:

[**15 Principles for Reading to Deaf Children**](#)