

ASL Warm-up / Bell Work Activities

Beginner (Level 1)

- Fingerspelling Practice – Write down 10 names or vocabulary words and fingerspell them to yourself.
- Alphabet Speed Drill – Go through the ABCs as quickly and clearly as possible.
- Number Warm-up – Sign numbers 1–50 (or higher, depending on progress).
- Mirror Practice – Use a mirror (or phone camera) to check clarity of handshapes.
- ASL Flashcards – Flip through a set of 10–15 vocab words learned last class.
- Silent Conversations – Without a voice, sign 2–3 sentences about your morning.
- Matching Game – Match written English words on a handout to their ASL gloss.

Intermediate (Level 2)

- Vocabulary Chain – Sign one vocabulary word, then sign another related to it (continue until you run out).
- Describe Your Weekend – Write 2–3 sentences in gloss, then practice signing them.
- Fingerspelling Challenge – Fingerspell 5 new places, names, or objects you've seen recently.
- Numbers in Context – Practice signing today's date, time, and the weather temperature.
- Deaf Culture Quick Write – Write down one fact you know about Deaf culture, then sign it to yourself.
- Role Shift Practice – Sign a short two-person dialogue, shifting between roles.
- Silent Sketch – Draw an object, then sign its ASL word.

Advanced (Level 3)

- ASL Story Retell – Think of a short story (cartoon, movie scene) and practice retelling in ASL.
- Classifier Warm-up – Choose one object (car, animal, book) and practice 3–4 classifiers for it.
- Gloss Translation – Translate an English sentence into ASL gloss, then sign it.
- Facial Expression Drill – Pick one sentence and change meaning only with facial grammar (question, negation, emphasis).
- ASL Synonyms – Think of 3 ways to sign the same idea (e.g., HAPPY, EXCITED, SATISFIED).
- Dialogue Journals – Record a short self-conversation in ASL on your phone, review clarity.

Advanced Plus (Level 4)

- Debate Prompt – Write a short argument (e.g., "School uniforms are good/bad") and practice presenting it in ASL.
- Perspective Switching – Retell the same event from two perspectives using role shift.
- Story Sequencing – Choose 5 vocabulary words and create a mini-story linking them.
- ASL Grammar Drill – Take an English sentence and restructure it into correct ASL grammar.
- Classifier Challenge – Use classifiers to describe a short action sequence (e.g., a car accident, a ball game).
- ASL Idiom Hunt – Recall and sign one ASL idiom and explain its meaning.

Level 5 (Advanced Fluency)

- Current Events in ASL – Pick a headline and summarize it in ASL.
- Silent Debate – Prepare 3 points for or against a topic, sign them clearly and persuasively.
- Interpreter Warm-up – Watch a short captioned video, mute sound, and interpret into ASL.
- ASL Poetry Practice – Practice signing a short ASL poem or create one.
- Cultural Reflection – Write one thought about Deaf culture and sign it as if presenting to an audience.
- Narrative Expansion – Take a basic sentence (“I went to the store”) and expand it into a full narrative with details and classifiers.
- SimCom Elimination – Practice staying fully in ASL without mouthing English words.