

June Bell Ringers

Celebrate the Journey

Look how far you’ve come.

20 BELL RINGERS · BEGINNER THROUGH LEVEL 5

Start class. Start signing.



MONTHLY FOCUS

Growth • Reflection • Celebration • Review • Student Choice • Community • Confidence • Fun

TEACHER NOTE

Many schools only have a week or two in June, so teachers do not need to use all 20 Bell Ringers. Pick five. Pick ten. Let students choose. Move some into May. June should feel like a celebration of growth, not twenty more assignments before summer.

HOW DIFFERENTIATION WORKS

Most activities include Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced, Advanced Plus, and Level 5 options. Some are intentionally marked **All Levels**. Teachers may move students up or down as appropriate.

OUR PHILOSOPHY

ASLdeafined provides a strong starting point while leaving space for teacher judgment, student contribution, and classroom creativity.

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1

Remember September?

LEVELED

THINK BACK TO THE START OF THE YEAR

“What felt difficult then that feels easier now?”

BEGINNER	Identify one thing.
INTERMEDIATE	Explain what changed.
ADVANCED	Give an example of your improvement.
ADVANCED PLUS	Explain what helped you grow.
LEVEL 5	Reflect on how your ASL communication has changed over the year.

TEACHER NOTE

Growth doesn’t have to mean perfection.

2

Favorite Sign of the Year

ALL LEVELS

Choose your favorite sign you learned this year. Show it. Then explain: why *that* one? Maybe it’s fun to produce, visually interesting, or something you use all the time. Compare class favorites.

3

Bell Ringer Hall of Fame

ALL LEVELS

Look back at the Bell Ringers from this year and vote.

CATEGORIES

Funniest

Most challenging

Most useful

Most creative

One we should do again today

Then do the winner.

4

Teach September You

LEVELED

IMAGINE

“You can go back to the first week of ASL class and teach yourself something.”

BEGINNER	Identify one skill or sign.
INTERMEDIATE	Explain why it would help.
ADVANCED	Demonstrate it.
ADVANCED PLUS	Explain what you wish you had understood earlier.
LEVEL 5	Reflect on how your understanding of ASL has changed.

5

ASL Trivia

STUDENT CREATED

Every student creates one question about something learned this year. Teacher selects several. Students answer.

QUESTION TOPICS

Vocabulary

Deaf culture

Grammar

Fingerspelling

Numbers

NMS

Class learning

TEACHER NOTE

The students create the trivia.

6

Show Me, Don't Tell Me

ALL LEVELS

Choose something you've learned to communicate visually. Do not name it. Show it. Partners guess. Then ask: what visual information helped you understand?

TEACHER NOTE

A callback to visual thinking from earlier in the year.

7

The Class Story

ALL LEVELS

Student #1 starts a story. Student #2 adds to it. Student #3 continues, and around the room it goes.

RULES

Maintain established people and locations.
Don't erase what happened before you.
Keep it moving.

TEACHER NOTE

Teacher gets to participate too.

8

Would You Rather? — ASL Edition

ALL LEVELS

TODAY'S QUESTION

"Would you rather be amazing at expressive ASL, or receptive ASL?"

Choose and explain. Higher levels defend their answer. Then students create their own ASL-related Would You Rather questions.

9

One Minute of EVERYTHING

LEVELED

Teacher gives a broad topic. Students try to use skills naturally.

THE TOOLKIT

NMS | Space | Fingerspelling | Depiction | Time | Questions | Role shift

BEGINNER	Use 2 skills.
INTERMEDIATE	3 skills.
ADVANCED	4 skills.
ADVANCED PLUS	5 or more, naturally.
LEVEL 5	Stop counting. Just communicate naturally.

TEACHER NOTE

Don't force features where they don't belong.

10

Teacher's Choice

TEACHER CHOICE

Last Teacher's Choice of the year. This time, choose something **you** loved teaching — not something students failed, not something on an assessment. Something that reminded you why you teach ASL. Do five minutes of that.

11

Student's Choice

STUDENT CHOICE

Students choose anything from the entire year.

ANYTHING AT ALL

Repeat a favorite | Create something new | Play a visual game | Practice conversation | Review something

Teacher asks only: why did you choose it?

12

What Can You Do NOW?

LEVELED

Not “how many signs do you know?” Instead, ask:

THE REAL QUESTION

“What can you do in ASL now?”

BEGINNER	Name 3 things.
INTERMEDIATE	Demonstrate one.
ADVANCED	Explain a real-world situation where you’d use ASL.
ADVANCED PLUS	Demonstrate communication strategies.
LEVEL 5	Reflect on functional communication growth.

13

ASL Superpower

ALL LEVELS

TODAY’S QUESTION

“If one ASL skill could become your superpower, what would you choose?”

SOME CANDIDATES

Lightning-fast fingerspelling recognition

Perfect facial expressions

Amazing visual storytelling

Never forgetting vocabulary

Understanding everyone

Explain your choice.

TEACHER NOTE

Fun — but also a little self-assessment.

14

Compliment the Class

ALL LEVELS

FINISH THE THOUGHT

“One thing our class got better at this year is...”

Students share. Teacher adds one too.

TEACHER NOTE

Shift the reflection from *me* to *we*.

15

The Ultimate Communication Challenge

LEVELED

You need to communicate something, but you don’t know the sign — and you cannot ask the teacher.

EVERYTHING YOU’RE ALLOWED

Gesture

Depiction

Description

Fingerspelling

Examples

Context

Rephrasing

Partner tries to understand.

TEACHER NOTE

You don’t need to know every sign to communicate successfully.

16

Make the Teacher Guess

ALL LEVELS

Students choose an object, activity, place, person type, or event. Teacher turns around while students decide what they will show. Teacher turns back. Students communicate it visually. Teacher has to guess.

17

Dear Next Year’s Students...

LEVELED

TODAY’S QUESTION

“What advice would you give someone taking this ASL level next year?”

BEGINNER	One tip.
INTERMEDIATE	Explain why.
ADVANCED	Give 2–3 pieces of advice.
ADVANCED PLUS	Explain what helps someone succeed.
LEVEL 5	Give thoughtful advice about learning a visual language and engaging respectfully with Deaf culture and community.

TEACHER NOTE

Save these and share selected advice with next year’s students.

18

Something I Want to Keep Learning

LEVELED

ASL learning doesn’t end because class ends. What would you like to learn more about?

POSSIBLE DIRECTIONS

- Vocabulary
- Deaf culture
- Interpreting
- Visual storytelling
- Conversation
- Another ASL level

BEGINNER	Identify it.
INTERMEDIATE	Explain why.
ADVANCED	Explain how you could continue learning.
ADVANCED PLUS	Identify a personal next step.
LEVEL 5	Reflect on lifelong language learning.

TEACHER NOTE

Learning continues beyond the classroom.

19

60 Seconds — Look at Me Now

LEVELED

Teacher gives a topic.

BEGINNER	30 seconds.
INTERMEDIATE	45 seconds.
ADVANCED	60 seconds.
ADVANCED PLUS	60+ seconds.
LEVEL 5	Natural spontaneous discourse plus audience interaction.

Then ask: would you have been able to do *that* at the beginning of the year?

20

The Last Bell Ringer

FINAL REFLECTION

No levels. No scoring. No timer. No required vocabulary. Just one prompt:

What has learning ASL given you?

MAYBE

- A new way to communicate
- Something you didn’t expect
- A better understanding of Deaf culture
- Confidence
- A new friend
- A challenge
- A different way of seeing language

Students can sign as much — or as little — as they want.

TEACHER NOTE

Then the teacher gets the final turn: “What has teaching *you* given me?”

And that’s it. Hands down. Bell Ringers finished.

June’s Big Idea

June is not about squeezing in one more unit.

It is about helping students recognize what they can now do with ASL, and giving teachers room to celebrate the community they built together.

THE YEAR BEHIND THEM

TEN MONTHS OF BELL RINGERS

September Back to ASL	October See It. Show It.
November Deaf Culture & Community	December Signs in Action
January New Year, New Challenge	February Connect & Communicate
March ASL Grammar in Action	April Tell It Visually
May ASL: Make It Yours	June Celebrate the Journey

FLEXIBLE BY DESIGN

June may contain only a handful of instructional days. Teachers can select the Bell Ringers that best fit their schedule, repeat favorites, or let students choose. The collection is intentionally reusable every year without being tied to calendar dates.

GUIDING IDEA

Make teachers’ lives easier without taking the teacher out of teaching.



A Year of ASL: Bell Ringers
June — Celebrate the Journey
Look how far you’ve come.