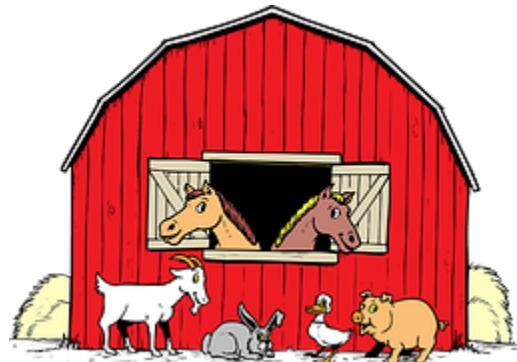


Let's talk about Big Red Barn

By Margaret Wise Brown

In the book *Big Red Barn* we see a day in the life of the animals that live on a farm. If your child already knows the signs of the different animals, you can add to this with colour words or whether the animal is big or little. One of the principles in the Le Clerc Centre's Shared Reading Project is to **"adjust signing style to fit the story."** Notice in the video Kathy shows "big" with her hands and her facial expression. When she signs the sound an animal makes, the movement and size matches the animal. For example, the squeal of a pig is a smaller, faster movement than the cow's slow mooing. Adjusting your signing style to fit the various characters helps to convey subtle differences in personality much like tone of voice might do in English. As you become more comfortable signing the story, think about varying your signing style to bring the characters to life for your child.



Let's Create

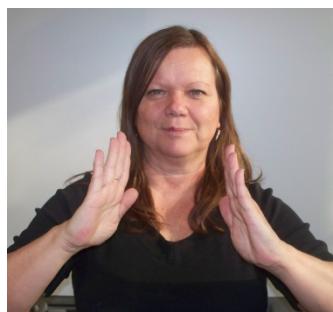
Peek-a Boo Barn

In this tip sheet you have: pictures of farm animals in the story with their ASL signs and a picture of a barn. Print, colour and cut out the barn and the animals. You can glue them to construction paper to make them stronger. To play: Hide an animal inside the barn then ask your child to guess which one is hiding. You could use the following signs:

Barn



Who?

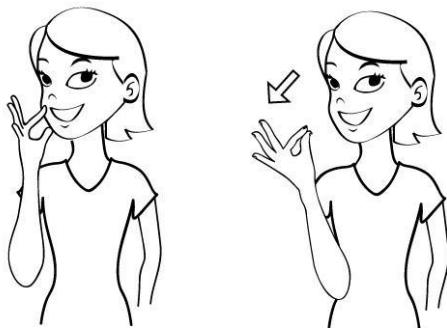


(wiggle index finger)

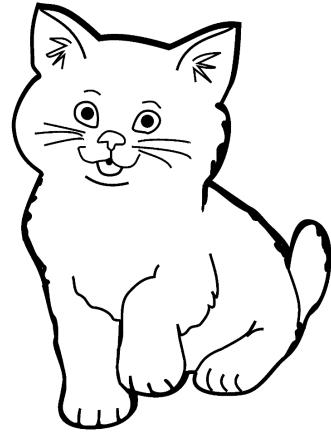
You can give colour clues or show the sound the animal might make. Take turns letting your child hide the animal and you guess who is hiding.

Animal Pictures and Signs for Peek-a Boo Barn Activity

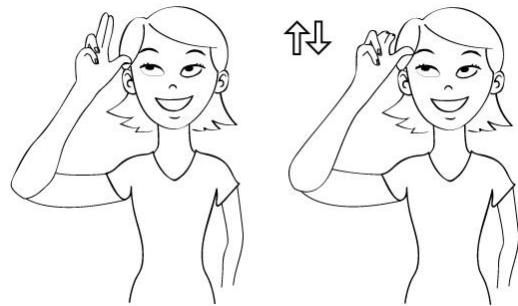
Cat



Cat



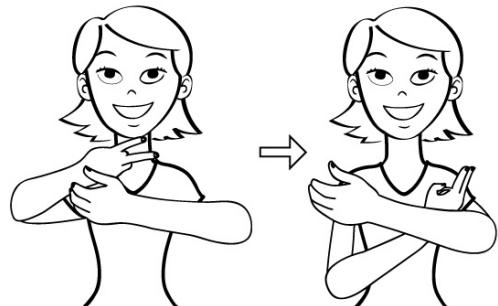
Horse



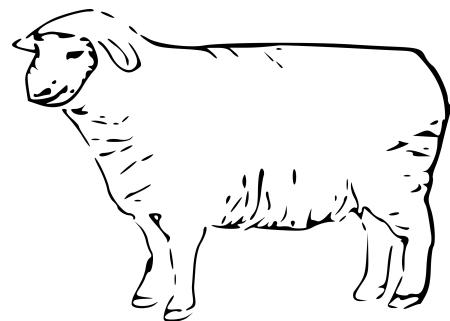
Horse



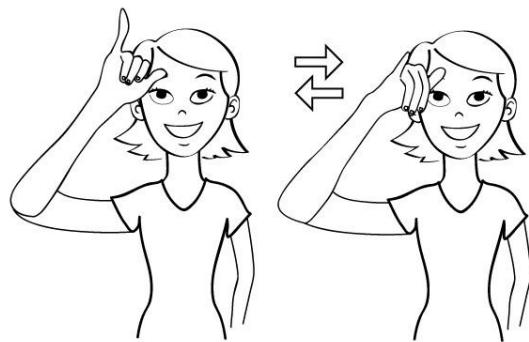
Sheep



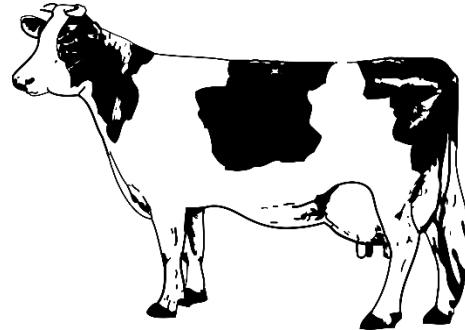
Sheep



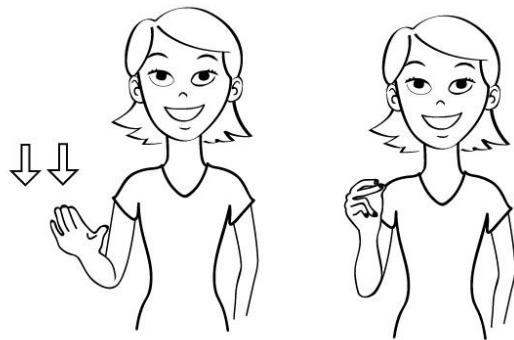
Cow



Cow



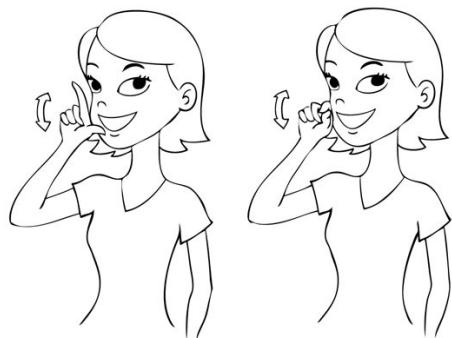
Dog



Dog



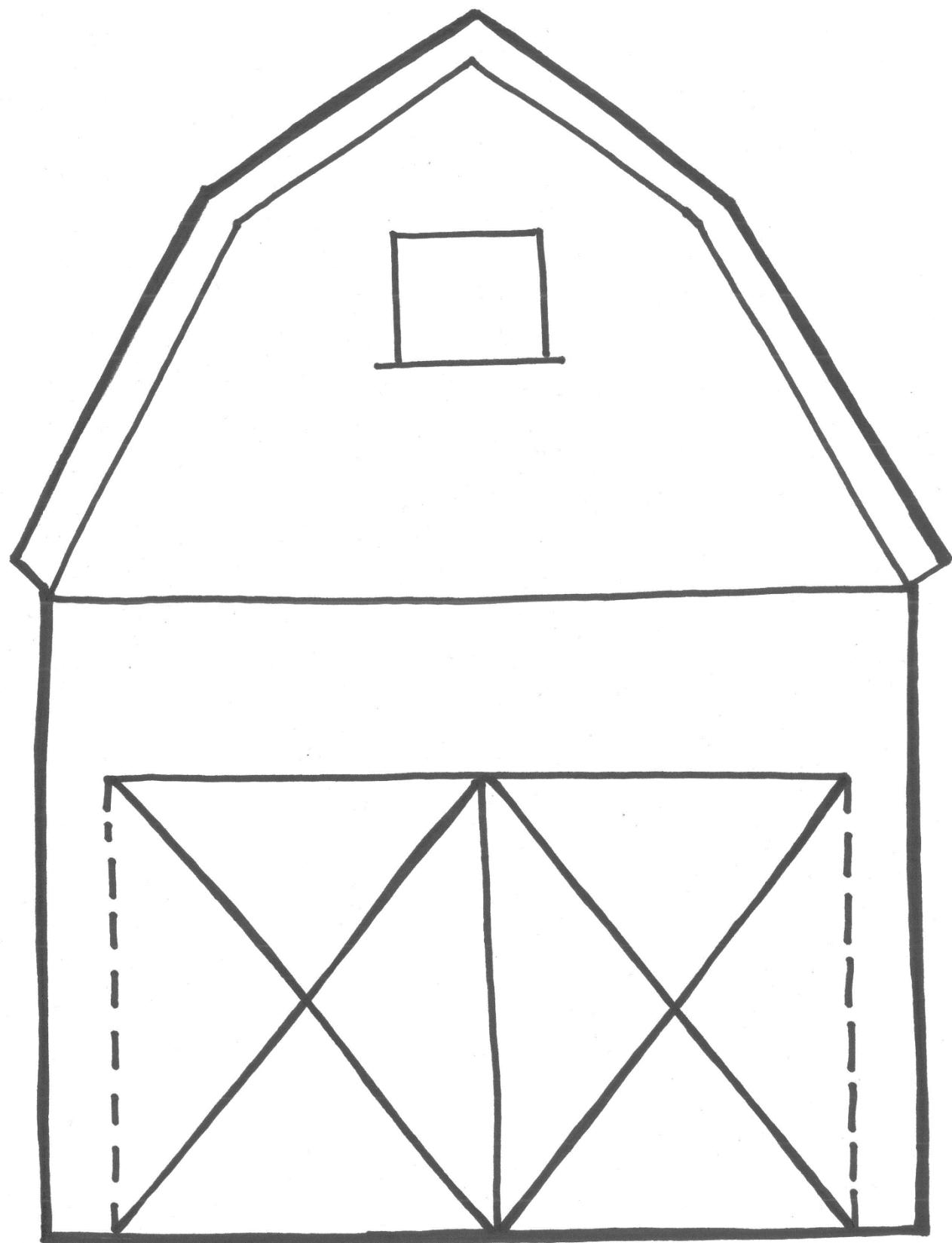
Chicken



Chicken



Barn for Peek-a boo Barn Activity



Let's Play Together

Just as hearing babies babble, deaf babies babble with their hands. One of the principles in the Le Clerc Centre's Shared Reading Project is to “**vary the sign placement when reading with your child.**” Sometimes doing the sign on your child or on the book can help maintain their attention, but it can also help them connect with the story. To encourage their language development it is important to be tactile and use gestures. The tickling fingerplay “This Little Piggy” below is a fun way to learn through touch.

This Little Piggy

Touch your child's toe as indicated then sign the bolded words for each line. The signs you will need are below.

This little **piggy** went to **market**. (touch your child's big toe)

This little **piggy** stayed **home**. (touch your child's next toe)

This little **piggy** had roast **beef**. (touch your child's next toe)

This little **piggy** had **none**. (touch your child's smallest toe)

This little **piggy** cried, “Wee, wee, wee!” (tickle your child from their toes up to their chin)

All the way **home**.

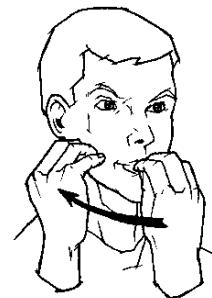
pig/piggy (squeeze fist 2x)



market/store



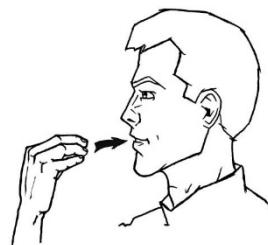
home



eat

+

meat (for beef)



none

