



Makaton Resource Vocabulary Download

Published by: The Makaton Charity Westmead House Farnborough Hampshire GU14 7LP Telephone: 01276 606760 Email: info@makaton.org Website: makaton.org

from whom additional copies and information are available.

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All proceeds from the sale of this item are used to further the work of The Makaton Charity in support of people living with communication or learning difficulties. For further information about our work please see our website makaton.org.

Acknowledgements

The Makaton Charity is enormously grateful to the many people who have contributed in a wide variety of ways to the development and production of these materials.

With special thanks to Jenny Rathbone

About the Makaton Programme

Makaton is a unique language programme which uses signs, symbols and speech to enable people to communicate. It supports the development of essential communication skills such as attention, listening, comprehension, recall and organisation of language and expression.

Makaton is used by children and adults with a variety of communication and learning difficulties. It is used extensively all over the UK in pre-schools, schools, centres, hospitals and clinics, and in the homes of people with communication and learning difficulties. It has been adapted for use in over 50 countries.

In addition to the children and adults with communication and learning difficulties and the community around them – for example, teachers, health professionals, friends, public service bodies, etc., Makaton is increasingly used by the general public to aid communication. Makaton has been shown to be useful for all sorts of people including those who struggle with understanding concepts, those who have poor literacy skills, including grammatical knowledge, and those with English as an Additional Language. By using Makaton, children and adults can take a more active part in life, because communication and language are the key to everything we do and learn.

The Makaton symbols and signs are used with speech, the written word or on their own. They provide a visual representation of language which increases understanding and makes expressive communication easier.

This multi-modal approach, where one mode facilitates another, has been shown to increase opportunities for personal expression and development, participation in interaction and socialisation and to increase access to education, training and public information.

About The Makaton Charity

The Makaton Charity exists to ensure that all people living with learning and/ or communication difficulties have the tools and resources to communicate. Our vision is a world in which all people with learning or communication difficulties can communicate.

The Makaton Charity:

- provides training for parents, carers and professionals;
- develops and produces printed and electronic resources;
- works with others to make their information accessible;
- provides advice and support to families and professionals;
- works in partnership to influence society and empower people.

Through our national network of over 1,000 licensed Makaton tutors and trainers, more than 30,000 parents, carers and professionals receive Makaton training each year. Our cascade approach enables us to share knowledge and offers a sustainable model for empowering others to improve communication for all.

Using Makaton with The Very Hungry Caterpilla by Eric Carle

Whether you are working with a group of regular Makaton users, a family member or perhaps you are aiming to include a Makaton user in an alternative or mainstream setting, whatever the circumstances, this topic-related group of symbols and signs will be an invaluable tool for building confidence and supporting understanding. Each symbol and sign can be used to illustrate and support communication and participation about a single concept; alternatively, groups of symbols or signs can be used to build simple sentences or to convey more than one idea.

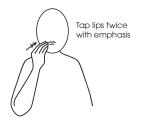
The signs should be practised until you are confident in your ability to recall and reproduce the signs correctly. The symbols can be cut out and used to help users be involved in understanding the story and what's coming next. The symbols can help users to remember and reinforce their learning. Use the symbols and signs together, and frequently, to develop understanding and consolidate learning.

Use symbols and signs to support the key words that you are communicating. Start by introducing single symbols or signs, making sure that the user is familiar with them before either introducing more symbols and signs or attempting to combine them to make sentences.

The symbols and signs included in this download work best when combined with and supported by the Makaton Core Vocabulary; therefore it is advisable to attend a Makaton Workshop to help develop an understanding of how to use the Core Vocabulary to underpin the development of communication and build understanding. Our Makaton Workshops will also help to show how to translate songs and stories appropriately. For more information or to find out about Makaton training in your area, contact The Makaton Charity on 01276 606777.

The symbols and signs in this download have been selected to help enjoyment and understanding of the book The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle. When signing the story you should sign only the key words because these will convey the meaning of the significant words in the text. With Makaton training you will also learn how to personalise the interpretation of the story to aid accessibility and help develop language and communication skills.

There are several signs where we use techniques of direction, placement, body movement or facial expression to enhance the meaning. Sometimes a sign can be used for more than one meaning too. This is because signs translate ideas and not just words. Here are a few examples:



To Eat (1)

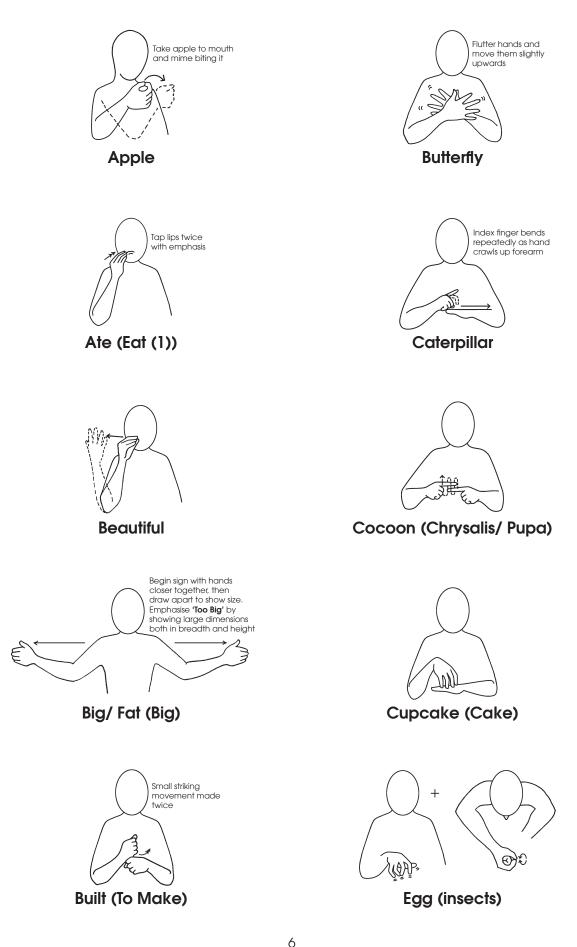
To Eat - We use the sign for 'To Eat' to also mean 'To Nibble' and for the past tense 'Ate'.

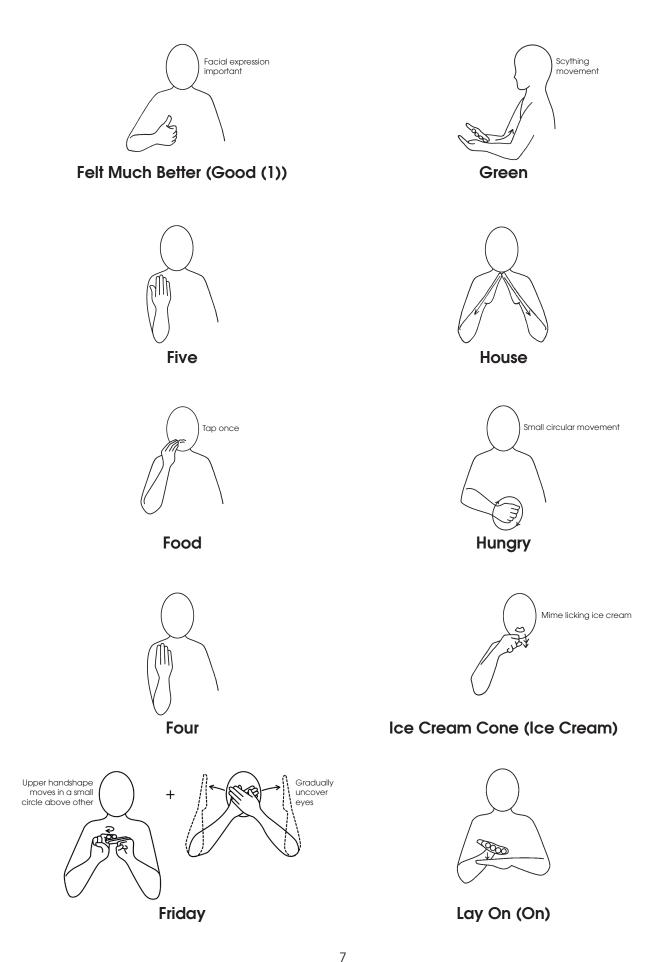


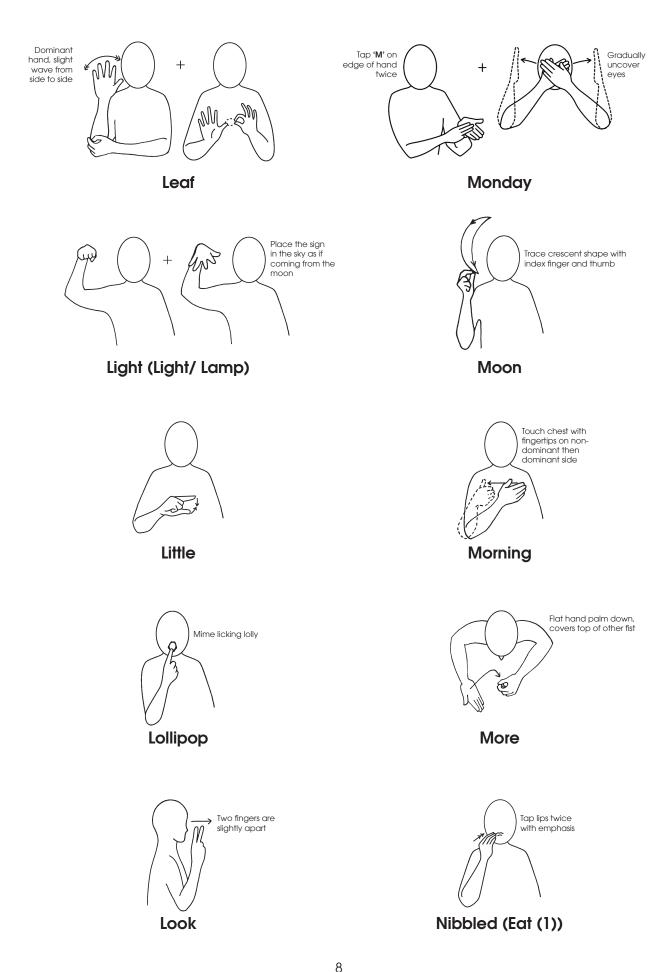
To Stop

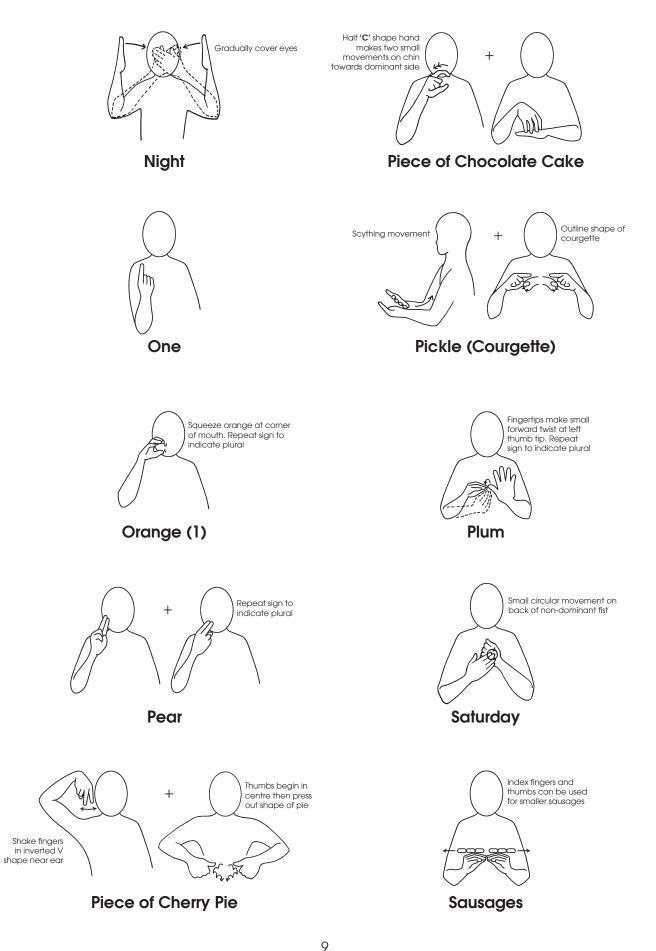
To Stop – We use the sign for **'To Stop'** to also mean **'To Stay'** by moving hands slightly forward and back, and also by using appropriate facial expression.

Some of the symbols and signs used within this download can be made plural by repeating the symbol or sign, for example, **'Oranges'**, **'Pears'**, **'Plums'**, **'Strawberries'** can all be signed more than once to show that there is more than one of them. To show this with symbols we use the symbol twice next to each other.

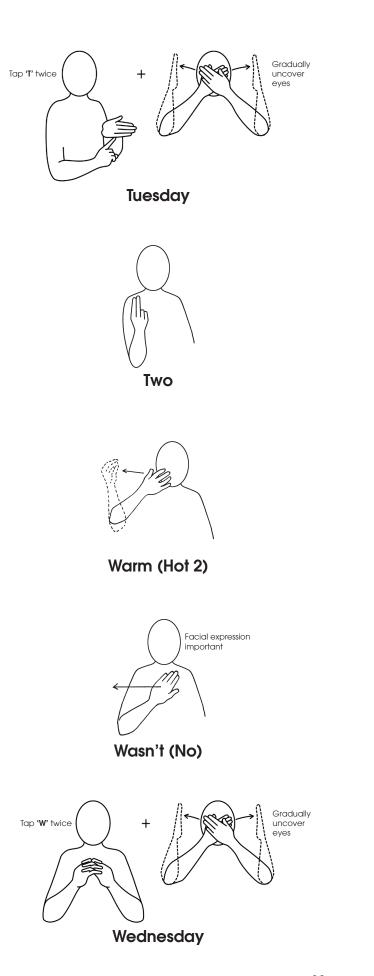














Weeks

