

Suggested Activities

1. Students Watch an Auslan Story and learn the signs

Using the videos: “Learn Each Sign” and “Picture, Text and Auslan”

Additional Useful Resources:

Auslan Smart Book Series - using real books, the Auslan teacher sign the story in Auslan. It has QR codes for students to click on each words to learn Auslan signs.

www.auslankids.com.au - students watch an Auslan story online and click on each words to see how they're signed in Auslan

2. Students Organise the Story into the Correct Order

Print out a Colour Story Sequence (from this book), laminate and cut into squares.

i) For each story sequence square, ask a volunteer to come up and sign the square in front of the class. Ask the class for their feedback on what they think the volunteer can do to improve their Auslan (if they are missing facial expressions, or do not show enough actions, etc).

OR

ii) Give all story squares to each group for them to organise the story into the correct order. Once they have organised the story into the correct order, have the students from each group practice telling the story in Auslan in unison. Once they are ready, they can retell the story in Auslan in unison to the whole class.

3. Students Cut and Paste the Story Sequences into the Correct Order

Give each student a Cut and Paste worksheet (from this book) and have them organise and write the story sequence themselves:

Story 1 for younger students (for example, Auslan Deer Story, page 7)

Story 2 for older students (for example, Auslan Deer Story, page 10)

When students have finished cutting, pasting and writing down the stories, they show the Auslan teacher if it's sequenced correctly.

Afterwards, they practice telling the story in Auslan, remembering the signs from the videos and use their imagination to make it more entertaining (using more facial expressions, depicting (descriptive) signs, constructed actions and role shift.

When they are done with practising, they can either:

- 1) video tape themselves telling the story in Auslan, or
- 2) find a partner to tell them the story in Auslan.

(If they cannot remember signs, they can watch the story again and practice using the signs).

4. Students Answer Questions about the Story in Auslan

For older students, give them a question sheet (from this book), for example, Auslan Deer Story, page 12, and have them:

1. Write down the answers in English in lower case (optional)
2. Then write the same answer again, this time in Auslan grammar, using TOPIC-COMMENT where necessary
3. Practice signing the answers in Auslan, using constructed actions, role shifts, facial expressions and intensity in signs
4. Record in video their answers in Auslan (using iPad, tablet, or laptop)
5. Self critique their own videos, writing areas that they think need to improve
6. Practice signing on these areas, and record again in Auslan (optional)

Bonus: Activities For Advanced Students

1. Students watch an “Auslan only” video and:
 - translate by voicing in English what the signer is saying
 - translate by writing in English what the signer is saying
2. Students watch an “Auslan only” video and:
 - make a list of the number of certain handshapes they see being used in the story, e.g. number one handshape, etc
3. Students to brainstorm a new Auslan story with the same character in the story and:
 - record themselves signing their own Auslan story
 - ask others to watch their Auslan video
 - ask for feedback on areas to improve (more constructed actions? Non manual markers?)
 - re-do their Auslan video
 - show their Auslan video (e.g. Auslan Deer vs the Lion) to younger students who have just finished learning an Auslan Story (e.g. The Auslan Deer Story) and are familiar with most Auslan signs in the story.