



# *Sing and Sign* *a Song for Christmas*



Three Seasonal Favorites adapted for American Sign Language (ASL)

Another wonderful addition to your American Sign Language (ASL) learning resources. Paint a picture of love and grace with the all encompassing movements of your hands. This **fully reproducible** package includes the ASL translation of the first verses for:

- **Away in a Manger**
- **Silent Night**
- **O, Holy Night**



Christmas



sing

About 10 years ago I used to work with deaf children in Jamaica, I am now out of practice (signing) but I'm still interested in working in this area. How do I get back up to speed signing? C. Lawrence

One great suggestion someone once gave me was to practice signing songs. Start with slow ones; then progress to faster ones. The beat of the music keeps you honest! In other words, you can tell if you get behind, because the singer goes right on without you!

Have fun!

*Elaine Schneider*

#### About the Author

**Elaine Ernst Schneider** entered the classroom as a special education teacher in the 1970's. Since then, she has taught mainstream English Grammar, Literature, music K-12, deaf education, psychology, Algebra, creative writing, social studies, science, psychology, and law in both public and private schools. In the 1990's, Elaine created an adaptive education program and implemented a student teacher program in a cooperative effort with the University of West Florida. While there, she opted to take her masters level courses in the area of learning disabilities. Today, she writes curriculum for several companies, as well as freelance articles on education.

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FULLY REPRODUCIBLE



# Away in the Manger

## Words

Away in a manger  
 No crib for a bed  
 The little Lord Jesus  
 Laid down his sweet head.  
 The stars in the bright sky  
 Looked down where he lay.  
 The little Lord Jesus  
 Asleep in the hay.

## Signs

Far in manger  
 No little bed  
 The baby Lord Jesus  
 Laid down sweet head.  
 Stars in bright sky  
 Look down.  
 Little Lord Jesus  
 Asleep in hay.

		
Laid down	sweet	head

			
Stars	in	bright	sky

## Cheat Sheet for **Silent Night** Adapted for ASL Signs

Word or Concept	Description of Action
all	Hold left hand vertically in front of body, palm facing in. Use right flat hand over, down, in, and up. End rotation by placing the back of the right hand in the palm of the left hand. The motion symbolizes "scooping" up everything around and beyond and placing it - complete - in one spot.
and	Place right open hand in front of body with palm facing in. Fingers will point to the left. Move hand horizontally left to right, ending with fingertips and thumbs touching. This symbolizes stretching, as one uses a conjunction to "stretch" a sentence.
baby	Hold arms in a cradling position and move them side to side, as if rocking a baby.
bright	Hold "and" hands at chest level, fingers touching. Open hands while moving them upward, to suggest a burst of light.