

Ideas for accessing Makaton resources at home

Makaton is a language programme using signs and symbols to help people to communicate. It is designed to support spoken language and the signs and symbols are used with speech, in spoken word order.

For those who have experienced the frustration of being unable to communicate meaningfully or effectively, Makaton really can help. Makaton takes away that frustration and enables individuals to connect with other people and the world around them. This opens up all kinds of possibilities. Today, over 100,000 children and adults use Makaton symbols and signs to communicate.

Makaton uses signs, symbols and speech to help people communicate. Signs are used, alongside speech, in spoken word order. This helps provide extra clues about what someone is saying.

Your Speech and Language Therapist will be able to discuss with you whether Makaton will be helpful for your child, and will demonstrate some signs to start with.

The following links are genuine sources of Makaton signing – please be aware that some sources of signing available online are not necessarily verified Makaton signs, and could be confusing.

Singing Hands <https://singinghands.co.uk/>

Singing Hands have a brilliant range of resources using Makaton, including DVDs, songs and signed stories. Also look Singing Hands up on YouTube – their channel has lots of topic videos of signs to follow.

Something Special/Mr Tumble <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/something-special>
CBeebies' Something Special programme uses Makaton in lots of real-life situations. There are additional resources on the CBeebies web site.

Makaton web site <https://www.makaton.org/>

On Makaton's web site there is lots of valuable information. It is also possible to purchase Makaton resources via their shop, which also includes lots of free downloads of information and activities. They also publish a 'Sign of the week' on Facebook, alongside other resources.

CBeebies Bedtime Stories

<https://www.google.com/search?q=rob+delaney+10+in+the+bed&sourceid=ie7&rls=com.microsoft:en-GB:IE-Address&ie=&oe=#spf=1590076657016>

'Ten in the Bed' read by Rob Delaney. Other signed stories read by Justin Fletcher are also available on iPlayer.

Sing Up on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=RDltgg0eYosOU&feature=share&playnext=1>

Songs signed with Makaton – example linked above.

My Choice Pad Pro App <http://www.mychoicepad.com/>

This is an app that gives access to all Makaton signs with video examples and can be used for communication and learning. There is a monthly cost or annual subscription available.