

Hand Talk

Reni's Feelings

Book 1

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Introduction

Come explore *Hand Talk: Reni's Feelings*, and chuckle at the funny and naughty things Reni does while learning to express his feelings with sign language. *Hand Talk* helps teach children of all ages and abilities how to communicate their needs and have fun in the process.

This book is the perfect tool for:

- Parents or caregivers of deaf or hard-of-hearing children
- Parents and teachers of special-needs children to help facilitate communication
- Nonverbal/minimally verbal children and their families, caregivers, friends, and neighbors
- Parents interested in baby signs
- Parents of infants, toddlers, and young children who want to avoid frustration and tantrums
- Teachers who want to introduce sign language to their students in a fun new way
- Anyone looking for a fun learning adventure

See all the signs demonstrated in Reni's picture book just after the story.



Hi. I'm Reni,
and I was stuck.
No one understood me,
no matter how hard
I tried.



Sometimes I
got so **mad**
that I felt like
I wanted
to explode...

...like when I tried to tell my mom,
“No green stuff,” and she
gave it to me anyway.



Then I learned how to Hand Talk.
Now I can use my hands to say
that I **don't want** the gross green stuff.



I can sign that
I'm **scared**
because lots of
things scare me.



Calm

Put both open hands out in front of your body, palms down; then lower them as you take a deep breath, and exhale as you calm down.



Cold

Make two fists, and shake them in front of your body—brrrrr.



Don't Like

Pinch your thumb and middle finger together in the middle of your chest, and pretend to pull a string away from your chest and throw it away.



Don't Want

Pull clawed hands, palms upward, toward your body; then turn them over and push them away quickly, as though you're pushing away the bad stuff.



Excited

Bounce your middle finger alternately off your shoulders in an upward circular motion.



Frustrated

Tap the back of your hand to your mouth twice.

