



[This page prints out on 2 sheets]

## **Cued Speech: Learning to Use Handshapes that Stand for Sound**

**Read this page to learn what cued speech is, and if it's right for your child.**

### **What cued speech is**

- Cued speech is a way for deaf people to "see" spoken English. It was invented to teach deaf children how to read.  
It helps children "see" the sounds.
- The cued speech method can help children do this:
  - Communicate with other people who use handshapes that stand for all the different sounds in English.
  - Possibly improve their speech.
  - Learn written English.
  - Learn other languages, like Spanish or Chinese.
- Cued speech is not sign language or American Sign language.
  - Cued speech uses handshapes that stand for different **sounds**.
  - Sign language uses handshapes, facial expressions, and body posture to express different **concepts**.
- Cued speech can be used with 2 other methods of communication.
  - It can be used with the [auditory-oral method](http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/communicating/choices/ao.jsp) (<http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/communicating/choices/ao.jsp>).
  - It can also be used with the [bilingual-bicultural method](http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/communicating/choices/bibi.jsp) (<http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/communicating/choices/bibi.jsp>).

### **How learning the cued speech method affects children's lives**

- Most children who cue go to public school.
- A person called a **cued speech transliterator** helps them understand what the teacher says.
  - The cued speech transliterator repeats the teacher's words without sound.
  - She uses cues to make her words clearer.
  - She can also "speak" for your child when your child cues back.

## How cued speech works

- There are eight different handshapes.
- The handshapes go in one of four places around the face.
- A person reads cueing by looking at the handshape, where it's placed, and how the speaker's lips move.
- For more on how cueing works, go to the [Cued Speech Association UK's site](http://www.cuedspeech.co.uk/) (<http://www.cuedspeech.co.uk/>).

## How can I learn cued speech?

Cued speech is not widely used in the U.S. today. You may have trouble finding a transliterator or someone to teach you how to cue. Here are some places to start looking:

- Find a cueing teacher on the National Cued Speech Association's state-by-state [list of teachers](http://www.cuedspeech.org/Instructor/Instructor_Directory.html) ([http://www.cuedspeech.org/Instructor/Instructor\\_Directory.html](http://www.cuedspeech.org/Instructor/Instructor_Directory.html)).
- Can't find a cueing teacher or transliterator near you? Call or e-mail the NCSA's information service, Cued Speech Discovery:

### **The National Cued Speech Association**

23970 Hermitage Road  
Cleveland, OH 44122  
Voice/TTY: (800) 459-3529  
E-mail: [cuedspdisc@aol.com](mailto:cuedspdisc@aol.com)

- Look for a cued speech workshop on Cuedspeech.com's [calendar page](http://www.cuedspeech.com/events.asp) (<http://www.cuedspeech.com/events.asp>).
- Learn how to cue online at the [Art of Cueing](http://web7.mit.edu/CS/Art) (<http://web7.mit.edu/CS/Art>).

## What other parents say

Read [what other parents said about communication choices](http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/meet/parents/communicating.jsp) (<http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/meet/parents/communicating.jsp>).

## Learn more about cued speech

- [CuedSpeech.com](http://www.cuedspeech.com/) (<http://www.cuedspeech.com/>) has resources for people who want to know more about cued speech.
- The [ERIC Clearinghouse on Disabilities and Gifted Education](http://ericec.org/digests/e555.html) (<http://ericec.org/digests/e555.html>) answers common questions about cued speech.

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You can find this page online at:

<http://www.raisingdeafkids.org/communicating/choices/cued.jsp>