

RESOURCES & RESEARCH

ALL
CHILDREN
READING:
A GRAND CHALLENGE
FOR DEVELOPMENT

Global Trends in Education and Literacy for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

CIES 2022

Below are resources, solutions and research from a panel hosted by **All Children Reading: A Grand Challenge for Development** at CIES 2022 that provided an overview of deaf education and existing work to create accessible and culturally relevant sign language tools and resources in Asian and African contexts, existing work to support foundational literacy skills, and a retrospective on some of the EdTech solutions developed under ACR GCD to globally support deaf and hard of hearing children and their families.

SESSION 1

Trends of Education Systems and Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community



World Around You (DeafWorldAroundYou.org)

An open-content online platform includes an online library of storybooks about different topics, including COVID-19, folktales, deaf experiences, cultural items and foods, and sign language genres.

SESSION 2

Supporting Foundational Literacy with Sign Language Rhyme and Rhythm and Shared Reading



Hands Land (Handsland.com)

Hands Land's ASL rhymes and rhythms that cover a wide range of themes including colors, animals, numbers, routines, and much more. Teachers, mentors, and parents will find them beneficial and relevant to their curriculum and daily life.



Enriching deaf children's American Sign Language phonological awareness: A quasi-experimental study (2021)

By L. Holcomb, D. Golos, A. Moses & A. Broadrick, A. A research article published in *The Journal of Deaf Studies and Deaf Education* that explores the effects of ASL rhyme, rhythm, and handshape awareness activities on 4- to 6-year-old deaf children's ASL phonological awareness. Access the research online at [this link](#).



Solutions & Tools



Research



Toolkits & Guides



AllChildrenReading.org

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SESSION 3

Literacy for Deaf Learners in Africa through Utilization of Digital Sign Language Storybooks



eKitabu Cloud Reader (open.ekitabu.com)

Accessible storybooks in multiple African sign and written languages. Sign Language stories adapted for television are available on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com).



[Sign Language for Deaf Children's Education and Guidance on its Use in Accessible Digital Teaching & Learning Materials](#)

A resource from UNICEF Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office by Georgine Auma Obura that covers sign language as a key component of inclusive education, key features of effective accessible digital content for deaf learners and recommendations.



Accessible EPUB Toolkit (toolkit.ekitabu.com)

A toolkit to create accessible EPUBs with image descriptions, accessible navigation, dyslexic fonts, and optional sign language videos.

SESSION 4

Can EdTech Help the Learning Needs of Children with Disabilities: A Grand Challenge Retrospective of Solutions that Work and Why



Sign & Smiles (SignsandSmiles.org)

A smartphone app that offers resources for hearing families with deaf children, including a dictionary of Nicaraguan Sign Language.



Global Digital Library (DigitalLibrary.io)

An online digital library with more than 6000 accessible digital books in more than 90 languages.



Bloom Library (BloomLibrary.org)

A global collection of books created with [Bloom software](https://BloomSoftware.com). Bloom makes it easy to create simple books and translate them into multiple languages.



More solutions and resources to support children with disabilities

Visit ACR GCD [Solutions Hub](#) and [Resources Hub](#) for a collection of solutions and resources developed and implemented to increase reading outcomes for children with disabilities, including children that are deaf and hard of hearing.



Research related to solutions for children with disabilities

ACR GCD's [Research Hub](#) contains a collection of research on solutions developed and implemented to increase reading outcomes and adapted early grade reading assessments for children with disabilities, including children that are deaf and hard of hearing.