

Sign Language STEM Resources

The following is a list of resources for the sign language interpretation during Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics filming projects. These are recommendations of sites for guidance in finding signs for terminology in order to either convey the correct meaning to words or to avoid excessive fingerspelling.

Recommended Online Resources

These resources have been gathered from various interpreting professionals as well as the Rochester Institute of Technology. It is understood that some may not be useful or applicable to specific projects.

ASL Clear: An online American Sign Language STEM concept learning resource featuring instructional modules presented by Deaf STEM content experts. Note: Turn on the “English” at the upper right corner to enable the search feature.

ASLCORE: Developed by the National Institute of Technology, this resource is intended to provide descriptive signs that complement other choices. The signs are grouped by category and you can use the search feature, if needed. Note that this resource contains just over 2,000 signs and may not have all the STEM signs you need.

DeafTec STEM Sign Video Dictionary: A STEM dictionary developed by DeafTEC and NTID to create a resource for STEM signs. It’s not an exhaustive resource and is a work in progress. Note: You must click on the categories in the upper right area (Lab Sciences, Math, Information Technology) to open the dictionary.

Other Resources for Comparison

A number of other resources are available and those listed here should be for the purposes of comparison/discussion since not all the content may be applicable to Education.

Atomic Hands: A series of YouTube videos that cover a variety of STEM processes and vocabulary. The search feature will allow one to find a video related to a term. Until further notice, this should be used for comparison purposes only.

HandSpeak: A content site on sign language, consisting of American Sign Language (ASL) online dictionary, grammar tutorials, fingerspelling, literary arts (storytelling, poetry, and other creative works), ASL writing, and other features.

Signing Savvy: A sign language dictionary containing several thousand videos of ASL signs, fingerspelled words, and other common signs used in the U.S. and Canada.

Other Resources for Comparison (continued)

ASL That: A series of YouTube videos demonstrating ASL lessons – vocabulary, topics, and Deaf Culture.

ASL-STEM Forum: A forum that is a part of a research venture at the University of Washington which seeks to remove a fundamental obstacle currently in the way of deaf scholars, both students and professionals. Due to its relative youth and widely dispersed user base, American Sign Language (ASL) has never developed standardized vocabulary for the many terms that have arisen in advanced Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields.

Signing Math and Science: For Signing Math & Science, TERC and Vcom3D used SigningAvatar® assistive technology to develop illustrated, interactive 3D standards-based sign language dictionaries

Google “ASL Sign for [word] RIT”: It has been noticed that many of the RIT Science and Mathematics signs from RIT’s dictionary are showing up in YouTube more so than the actual dictionary.