

CONTENTS

Communication: The Backbone to a Healthy Relationship With Your Child	9
911...To Call or Not to Call?.....	11
Proving an Intuition	13
Get the Big Picture.....	15
Something Done Wrong Long Enough Becomes Right?.....	15
Why the First Signs of Intelligent Life Can Be Signs	17
“Even Though I Can’t Talk Yet, I Know More Than You Think I Know”	19
How Your Child’s Cognitive Skills and Motor Coordination Develop During Infancy	20
Seeing the World Through a Newcomer’s Eyes	21
Shared Perception and Shared Meaning.....	21
Learning by Association	23
Will Signing Interfere With My Child’s Speech Development?.....	24
To Contribute or to Commit?	25
How to Sign With Your Baby.....	26
Let Your Fingers Do the Talking.....	26
Gazes: Opportune Moments to Introduce Signs.....	26

Let's Face It	28
The First Signs of Intelligent Life	29
How To Show Your Infant a Sign	29
Which Signs to Start With and When to Start.....	31
“Can You Tell Me Where It Hurts?”	39
Some Handy Games.....	41
Recognizing Your Children's Signs.....	43
Repeating and Reinforcing Your Signs.....	46
Combining Signs.....	48
How to Create a New Sign.....	48
The Power of Silence.....	49
Things to Remember.....	50
The Terrible Twos and Threes: Talk Your Child Out of Them.....	51
Final Thoughts.....	52
Hand Shapes	55
Vocabulary	57
References	107
Index	108