

Learning Objective: To teach children the meaning of gestures in nonverbal communication

Skill: Emotional communication

Ask the group what "gesture" means, and choose volunteers to show gestures with their arms and hands. Ask others to tell what they think these gestures indicate.

Tell the group:

Gestures play an important role in communication. Many people use their hands to emphasize what they are saying. For example, clapping or giving a "thumbs up" shows your approval. Waving is a gesture of greeting or a way of saying goodbye. Other parts of the body are also used to convey the meaning of our words. Shrugging your shoulders is a way to say, "I don't know," or "I don't care."

Even though we usually pay more attention to the words people are saying, it's important to recognize what signals and gestures mean so that we can communicate effectively.

Distribute Activity Sheet 15. After the children have completed it, discuss what each gesture means and when it might be used.

Name _____ Date _____



What does this gesture mean?

Describe a time this gesture might be used:



What does this gesture mean?

Describe a time this gesture might be used:



What does this gesture mean?

Describe a time this gesture might be used:



What does this gesture mean?

Describe a time this gesture might be used:
