

**April 2008**  
**ISRC Digital Update**  
**Illinois Service Resource Center**  
**A Technical Assistance Center of the Illinois State Board of Education**  
**Serving Children with Hearing Loss and Emotional/Behavioral Disorders**

ISRCReview Winter Newsletter: Effective Functional Behavior Assessments and Behavior Intervention Plans  
<http://www.isrc.us/ISRCReview.html>

1. Upcoming events:
  - ~FREE...Conference for Parents
  - ~ Annual Deaf Fingerspelling Bee
  - ~ Visual Phonics Workshop
  - ~CHOICES for Parents UNHS day
  - ~Interpreter Training Workshops
2. Deaf and Hard of Hearing Issues in the General Assembly
3. Sign Language Inclusion in websites
4. Animated ASL storytelling
5. Helen Keller - rare photo
6. Study Skills
7. Stress and relaxation
8. In Our Library: The relaxation & stress reduction workbook by Martha Davis, Elizabeth Robbins Eshelman, Matthew McKay.

**1. Upcoming Events!!!**

~FREE conference for parents of children who are deaf or hard of hearing, located in Illinois!

South of Seventy: April 5, 2008 Rend Lake College, Mt. Vernon, IL  
For more information contact  
Highlighting Education and Resources,  
125 Webster, Jacksonville, IL 62650,  
217-479-4393 (v/tty), 1-877-339-2686 (v/tty),  
<http://morgan.k12.il.us/isd/hear>

~Statewide Deaf FingerSpelling Bee  
The Illinois Deaf and Hard of Hearing Commission (IDHHC) will be hosting the 11th Annual Statewide Deaf FingerSpelling Bee this year in Springfield, IL. Date: April 25, 2008 Registration: 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Time: 10:00 a.m. to completion  
Location: University of Illinois at Springfield – Brookens Auditorium 1 University Plz Springfield, IL 62703 email: [kent.schafer@illinois.gov](mailto:kent.schafer@illinois.gov) or visit the website at <http://www.idhhc.state.il.us>

~Visual Phonics Workshop

Where: Country Trails Elementary School 3701 Highland Woods Blvd Elgin IL

60124 (off Route 20 between Randall Road and Route 47)

When: Friday, April 25, 2008: 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, April 26, 2008: 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Participants must attend both days.

Cost: \$75.00 --- this includes: continental breakfast both days, lunch on Friday, Visual Phonics Notebook Handout of 80 pages, CD on information regarding Visual Phonics

Register: Please mail your name, address, phone number and email address along with your check to the NIA office at Country Trails Elementary School, 3701 Highland Woods Blvd, Elgin IL 60124.

Make check payable to NIA.

Questions: Please call Karen Bogdan, NIA Supervisor, at 847/717-8175.

Additional Visual Phonics materials will be available to buy at the workshop.

~CHOICES for Parents will sponsor its UNHS day

Universal Newborn Hearing Screening (UNHS) Day will be Friday, April 11 at Marcello's Restaurant, 645 W. North Ave., Chicago, IL

60610. The program begins at 2:30 p.m. and a reception will follow.

This year CHOICES for Parents will honor Carrie Balian, Parent Liaison; Ann DeBattista, Development Therapist; and the Illinois Deaf Latino Association. [www.choicesforparents.org](http://www.choicesforparents.org)

~H.E.A.R. and Illinois State Board of Education Present: Free Workshops for Educational Interpreters!

DAY 1: Transliterating; Idioms and Multiple Meanings DAY 2: Fingerspelling and Numbers; Voicing/Receptive Skills

\*\* Training space is limited. Pre-registration is required\*\* Register Now! Phone 877-339-2686 (Toll Free)

On line registration will be available soon at <http://morgan.k12.il.us/isd/hear>

Location - Day 1 - Day 2

Sycamore, Illinois : NIA - March 15, 2008 - April 26, 2008

Moline, Illinois : Roosevelt Elementary School - February 23, 2008 - April 5, 2008

2. There are several new bills under review right now in the Illinois General Assembly that relate to Deaf and Hard of Hearing issues:

**House Bill 5321-** Funding for the Illinois Newborn Hearing Screening Program

**House Bill 5600-** Insurance coverage for audiological services and hearing aids for children up to 18 years of age

**House Bill 5493-** Encourages schools to offer ASL courses for foreign language credit

**House Bill 5598-** Income tax deduction for purchase of hearing aids over \$2,000.00

For more information on these bills visit <http://www.ithi.org/content/view/26/1/>

3. Sign Language Inclusion in websites:

The Center for Accessible Technology in Sign (CATS) at Atlanta Area School for the Deaf and Georgia Tech is adding sign language capabilities to web sites. What sites or subjects (spelling, science,

sites for young children...) would you like signs added to? Contact Harley Hamilton at hhamilton@gatech.edu <http://www-static.cc.gatech.edu/program/cats/>

4. Check out the sign language simulation in "The Forest" by Jason Stewart, performed by Diego Sanchez

**Vcom3D** and the **Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center of Gallaudet University** are researching and developing a proof-of-concept system for creating and delivering animated stories using the full range of facial expression and body language of American Sign Language, as well as manual signs. For this research, we will evaluate how the use of newly developed "Lifelike Expressive Avatars" affects the reading comprehension of Deaf and Hard of Hearing students.

[http://www.vcom3d.com/vault\\_files/forest\\_asl/](http://www.vcom3d.com/vault_files/forest_asl/)

5. Helen Keller

Photos and story of Helen Keller and her teacher Anne Sullivan.

[http://news.aol.com/story/\\_a/rare-photo-shows-helen-keller-teacher/20080305174909990001?ncid=NWS00010000000001](http://news.aol.com/story/_a/rare-photo-shows-helen-keller-teacher/20080305174909990001?ncid=NWS00010000000001)

6. A wealth of resources about learning styles, learning disabilities, time management, environmental control, study skills, reading, note-taking, writing, research, memory aids, test preparation and test taking.

<http://www.bucks.edu/~specpop/Actfrm.htm#notes>

7. Stress and relaxation

With Spring Fever quickly closing in on us here is some Information to consider about identifying, understanding and managing your stress as well as relaxation techniques. These easy to use techniques just might keep you going until summer.

<http://www.bucks.edu/~specpop/frame-ls-13.htm>

8. In our library: The relaxation & stress reduction workbook by Martha Davis, Elizabeth Robbins Eshelman, Matthew McKay.

This workbook presents a comprehensive look at stress, its physical manifestations, and the multiple ways it can be managed. Its well-organized chapters on breathing, relaxation, meditation, thought stopping, and body awareness guide the reader through copious self-help techniques to try and, eventually, master. Other chapters, including job stress management, goal setting and time management, and assertiveness training, focus on daily scenarios people often find distressing. Lessons in identifying key elements that trigger unpleasant responses and in reacting differently to these elements are designed to defuse perceived conflicts. <http://216.70.190.41/surpass/websafari.exe/detail?Database=database&SID=4B75686D182F2748&MARCNuM=312&Level=4&Record=5&Call=RA785.D374%202000&Cat=BOOK&List=R&Bag=0>

Remember our materials are free to borrow and will be mailed to you directly with return postage included. Please take advantage of this extremely valuable resource. The library consists of an expanding collection of over 1200 items, including books, videotapes, audiotapes, test kits and games related to deafness, deaf culture, sign language, audiology, mental health, behavior management, parenting and administration. To request a bibliography of materials, or to request a specific item, please call the ISRC at (847)559-8195 or (800)550-4772. Or [e-mail us](#).