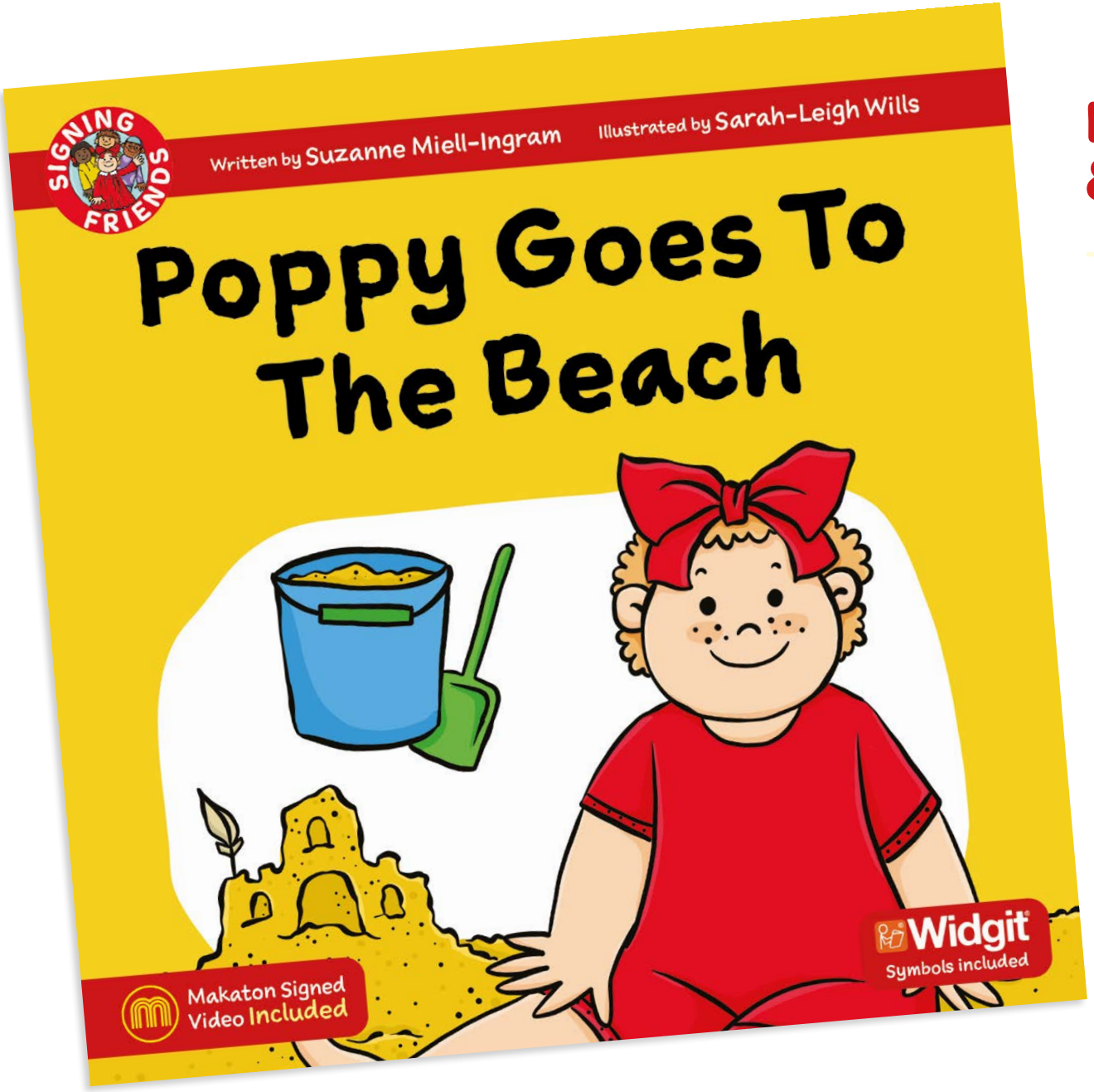


Learning Resources & Activity Pack

Featuring:

Pg3 → Reading Board

Pg4 → Colourful Semantics

Pg7 → I Spy Game

Pg9 → Story Sack

Pg10 → Craft Sheets

Pg12 → Lyrics Sheet

Pg14 → Song Choice card

Introduction to this pack

Each book in the Signing Friends series features a QR code inside the front cover taking the parent, carer or professional to a Makaton signing demonstration video. This video will enable you to pre-learn all the signs so that you are ready to read and sign the story with confidence to your child. Every book includes colourful Widgit symbols to support your child's reading development, communication and learning. We have symbolised the key words to match the signs in the demonstration video.

In addition to the book and the video, the Signing Friends team and Widgit have created a downloadable PDF of resources to complement each title in the series.

We aim for each book to be the starting point for the vocabulary or topic and then the resource pack enables you to practise the same signs and symbols through games, activities and songs. Utilising the same signs and symbols in different formats will help you consolidate understanding and embed the relevant EY vocabulary in fun, child-centred way.



More Information:

Signing Friends - www.signingfriends.co.uk
The Makaton Charity - www.makaton.org
Widgit - www.widgit.com
SEND publishing pledge

Poppy Goes To The Beach - Resources

Every book has a mixture of different resources so that you have a really varied experience across our book series. In this pack for POPPY GOES TO THE BEACH, you have the same READING BOARD as we do for each title, but with an image of this book included. This board has some key symbols to support communication during story time.

With all the storybooks in the Signing Friends collection, we have included a Colourful Semantics sheet to support children's understanding of sentence structure using this colour-coded system (WHO / DOING / WHAT / WHERE). This teaching method was devised by SLT Alison Bryan and you can find out more about using Widgit with Colourful Semantics on Widgit.com.

We have included an 'I Spy at the Beach' game for when you next visit the seaside so that you can tick off all the concepts you see.

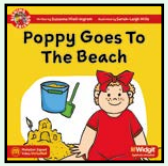
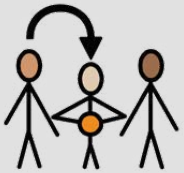
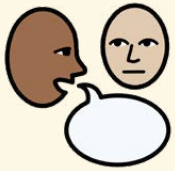
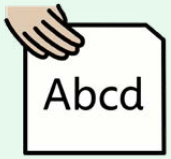
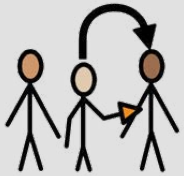
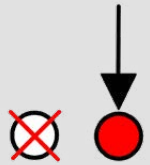
We've also given you suggestions of how to create a story 'sack' or props kit to go alongside the book to make the resource multi-sensory.

To finish off the pack, you have a couple of seaside-themed colouring / craft activities and a song sheet that features a BEACH in the lyrics. You can watch the Singing Hands video for this song by using the same QR code inside the front cover of the book. There are also suggestions for other songs on the same theme. We have included some symbol props (5 sandcastles) and song symbol card for you to add to a choice board at song time.

Happy Signing!

Poppy Goes To The Beach - Reading Board

Use the symbols below to support communication during story time.

 I	 look	 book	 Poppy	 like
 you	 sign	 front cover	 Lola	 don't like
 my turn	 say	 words	 Zack	 finished
 your turn	 choose	 turn	 Jack	 something else

Widgit resource to accompany Poppy Goes To The Beach from the Signing Friends Book Series info@singinghands.co.uk | Widgit Symbols © Widgit Software Ltd. 2026

Poppy Goes to the Beach - Colourful Semantics

Choose a page from the book. Look at the illustration. Build a sentence.

Who?	Doing?	What?	Where?
			

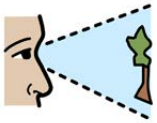
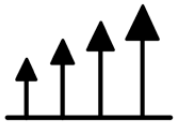
Colourful Semantics

Colourful Semantics is a teaching approach developed by Alison Bryan to help learners develop their spoken and written language skills. In these samples, single words have been used because the symbols can be combined to create a variety of sentences. However, we encourage you to begin by using the single words and then model the full sentence back to the learner. Where possible, we recommend you undertake the relevant training on how best to deliver Colourful Semantics.

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Poppy Goes to the Beach - Colourful Semantics Vocabulary

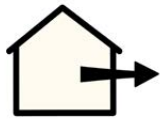
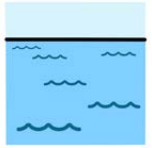
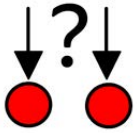
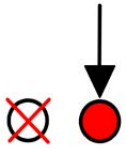
Cut out the tiles. Build a sentence.

 Poppy	 Lola	 Jack	 Zack	 Seagull	 going
 finding	 sees	 building	 wanting	 swimming	 buying
 flying	 swimming costumes	 sun lotion	 bucket	 spade	 sunhat

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Poppy Goes to the Beach - Colourful Semantics Vocabulary

Cut out the tiles. Build a sentence.

 sandcastles	 seashells	 crab	 lighthouse	 bus	 ice cream
 lolly	 fish and chips	 outside	 home	 beach	 sea
 sky	 somewhere else	 something else	 someone else	 doing something else	

Poppy Goes To The Beach - I Spy

Tick off what you can see on your trip to the seaside













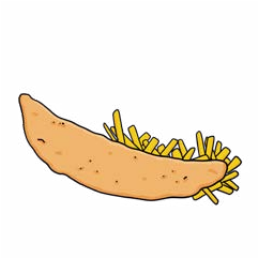


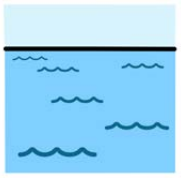




Poppy Goes To The Beach - I Spy

Tick off what you can see on your trip to the seaside
















Widgit resource to accompany Poppy Goes To The Beach from the Signing Friends Book Series
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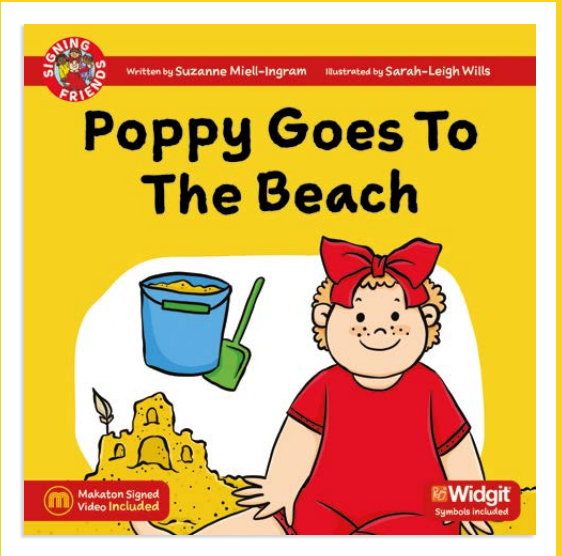
Poppy Goes To The Beach - Create a Story Sack

Drawstring bag (you can find these online, usually about £1 / £1.50 each)

Print off book cover 'tag'*, cut out and laminate (or back with cardboard) and tie onto the string (below).

Swimming costume or photograph / illustration of costumes
Toy towel
Mini bag
Bottle of sun lotion
Bucket and spade
Sunhat
Photograph or illustration of a lighthouse
Photograph or illustration of the sea (or make sensory bags with blue gel for the 'sea' and couscous for 'sand')
Toy shells and crabs
Toy ice cream, lolly, fish and chips
Toy seagull or photograph / illustration
Toy bus

Optional: Mini Poppy, Lola, Jack and Zack puppets

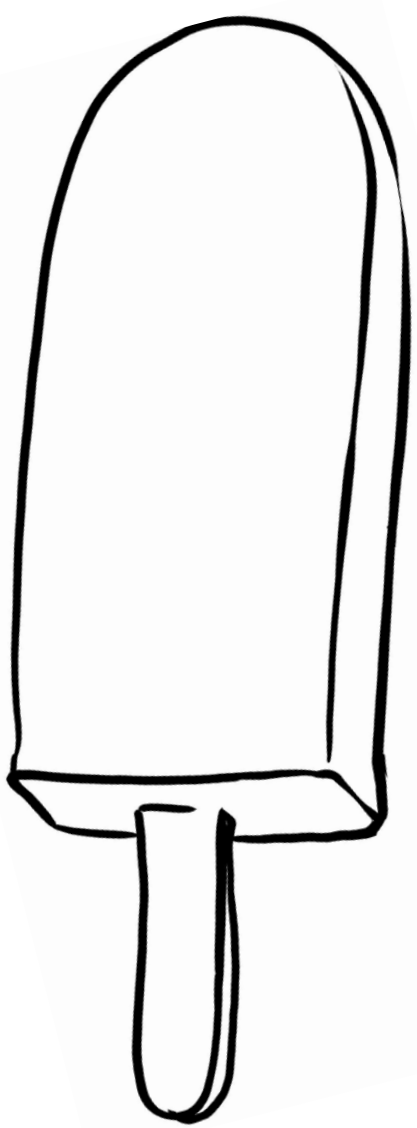


Story Sack

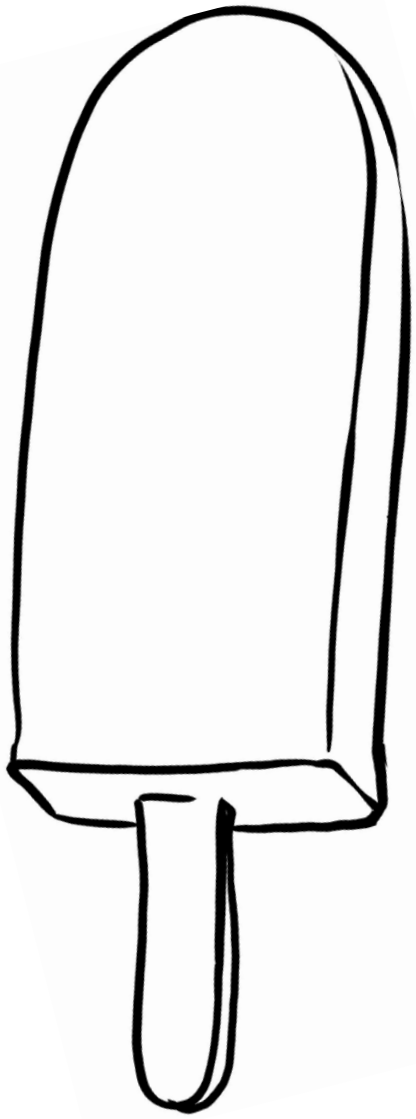
*book cover 'tag'

Poppy Goes To The Beach - Craft Sheet

Colour and decorate the ice-creams and lollies.



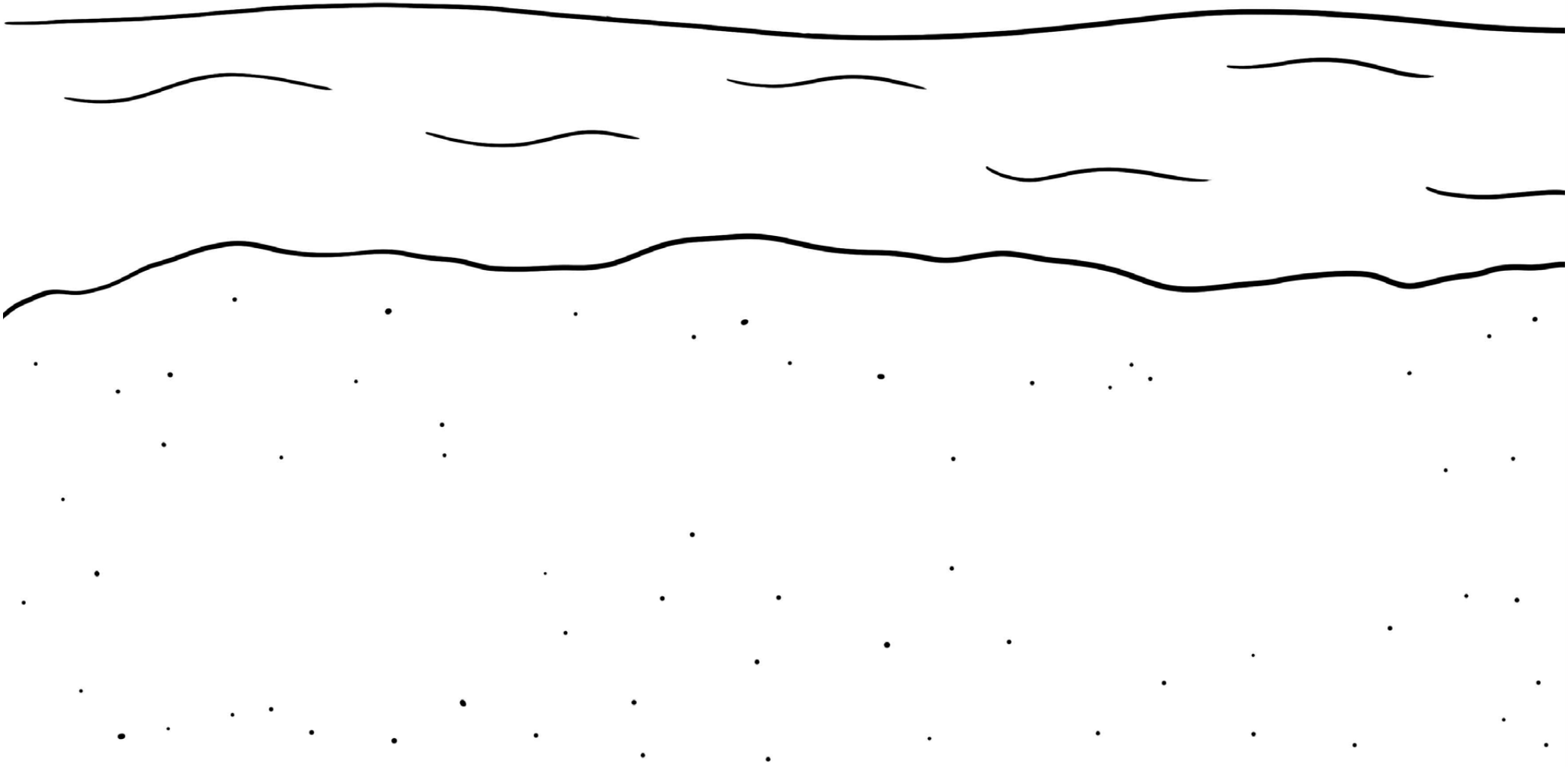




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Poppy Goes To The Beach - Craft Sheet

Design your own beach scene



Five Little Sandcastles

Join in with this number song with Singing Hands.

NB Due to timing in song and length it takes to sign SANDCASTLE, we don't sign BEACH in the song.
We sign BIRD for seagull. If you want to sign SEAGULL you need to sign SEA + BIRD

Five little sandcastles sitting on a beach, watching the boats go by (FIVE / SANDCASTLE / BOAT)
Five little sandcastles sitting on a beach, watching the seagulls fly (FIVE / SANDCASTLE / BIRD)
Five little sandcastles sitting on a beach, watching the clouds so high (FIVE / SANDCASTLE / CLOUD)
When along came a wave and washed one away (SEA / FINISH)
And this is what the other ones said (TALK)

Now we are four little sandcastles sitting on a beach, watching the boats go by (FOUR / SANDCASTLE / BOAT)...

Now we are three little sandcastles sitting on a beach, watching the boats go by (THREE / SANDCASTLE / BOAT)...

Now we are two little sandcastles sitting on a beach, watching the boats go by (TWO / SANDCASTLE / BOAT)...

Now I am one little sandcastle sitting on a beach, watching the boats go by (ONE / SANDCASTLE / BOAT)

One little sandcastle sitting on a beach, watching the seagulls fly (ONE / SANDCASTLE / BIRD)
One little sandcastle sitting on a beach, watching the clouds so high (ONE / SANDCASTLE / CLOUD)
When along came a wave and washed him away (SEA / FINISH)
And now there is nothing to say (NO / TALK)

You can play this at the beach or in a sandpit or tuff tray and knock down each sandcastle in turn.

Print off the Widgit sandcastle symbol and use the symbols on a storyboard as a visual as each sandcastle is washed away.

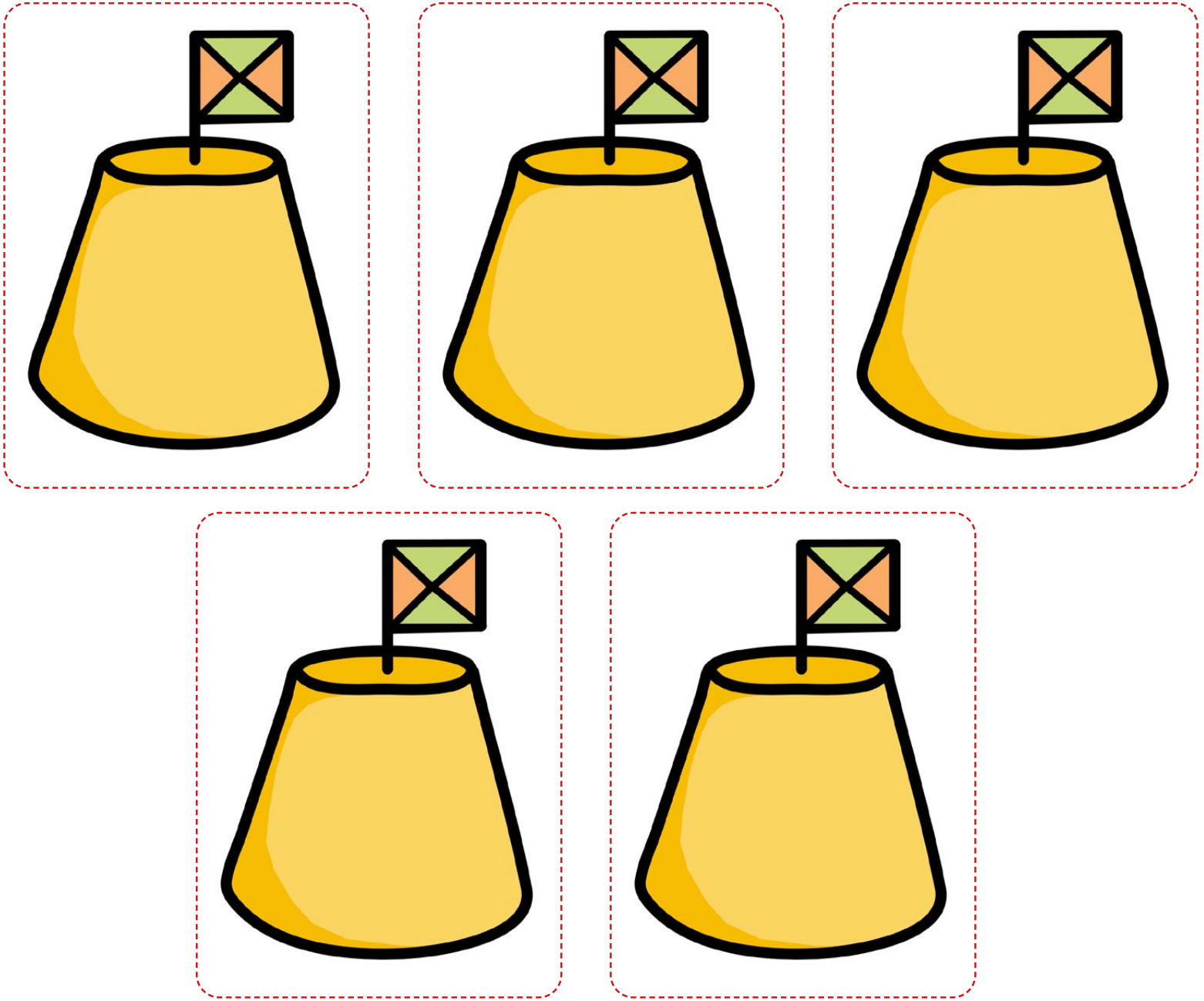
Other seaside songs include:

SUMMER HOLIDAY

I DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE SEASIDE.

Five Little Sandcastles Song Props

Print off the symbols, laminate and add velcro stickers to use with your song board



Poppy Goes To The Beach - Song Choice card

Cut out and laminate this song symbol card to add to your song choice board.

5

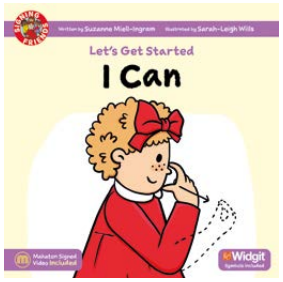


Five Little Sandcastles

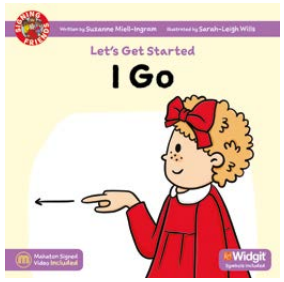
Other Books from Signing Friends

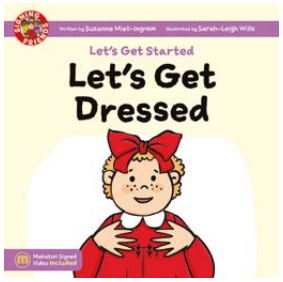
All titles feature a Makaton signing demonstration video and Widgit symbols to support with literacy and communication development

Let's Get Started Series

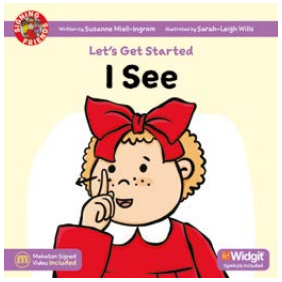


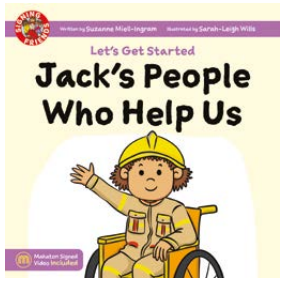


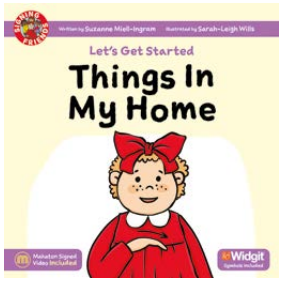


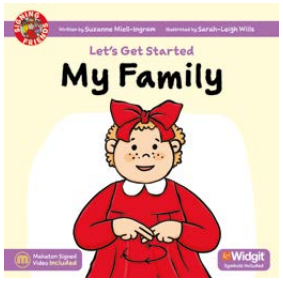


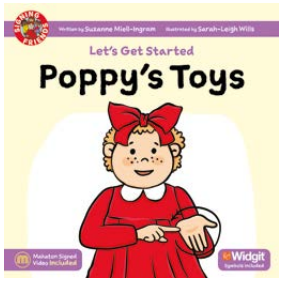




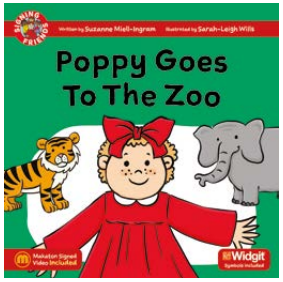


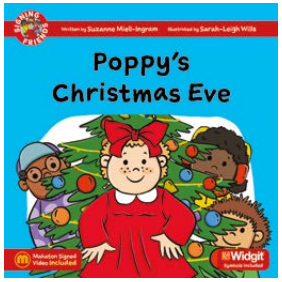


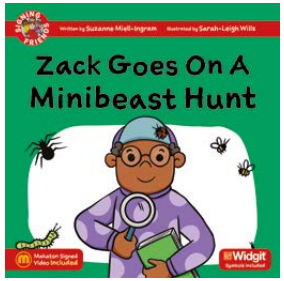


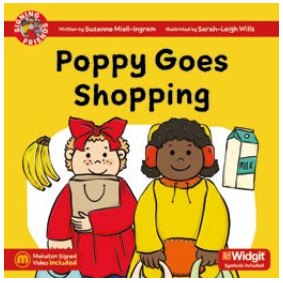


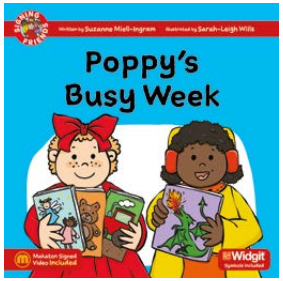
The Storytime Series

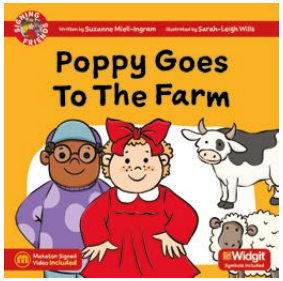


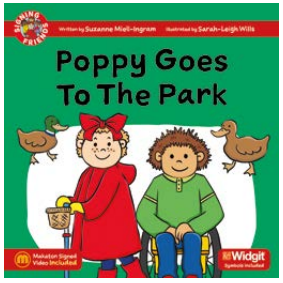


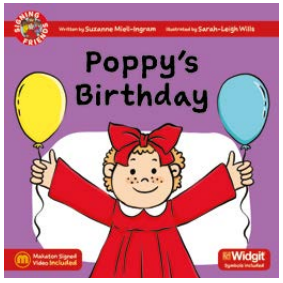


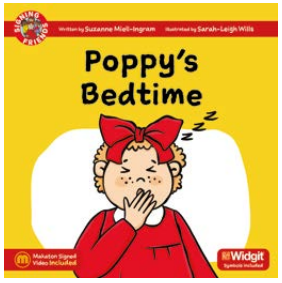


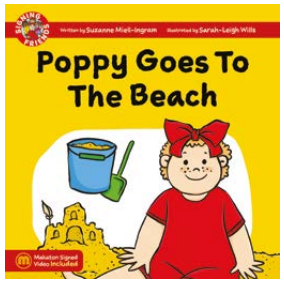




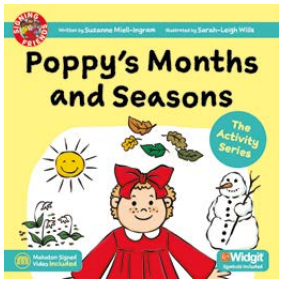


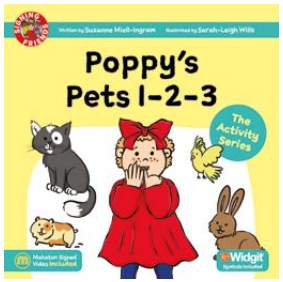


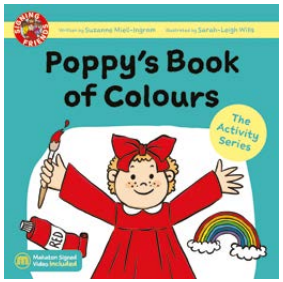


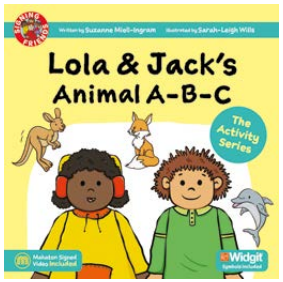


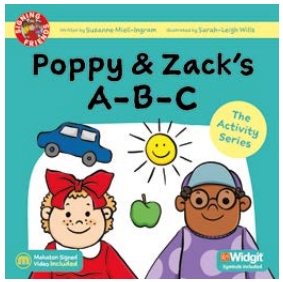
The Activity Series











www.signingfriends.co.uk

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