The following lesson incorporates the use of “pet” signs. While your students are practicing their new American Sign Language (ASL) vocabulary, they will also have a chance to engage in some fun math activities as well!

**presentation**

Start by giving each student the SVW for Volume 1. Review only the signs labeled 1a: Pets. Using your Teacher’s Vocabulary Guide, begin teaching your class the four ASL signs this lesson focuses on: bird, dog, cat, and fish. Have students fill in the 1a: Pets portion of their worksheet and review. Since there are a small number of vocabulary words, the review will be quick.

A fun way to review... Have students (independently or as a group), share by signing what their favorite pet is and why. They have to choose one of the four vocabulary words (e.g., dog). Each time a student says one of their new vocabulary words such as “dog,” remind your students they need to use their new ASL signs. If a student does not have a pet, they...
should pick a pet (one of the four vocabulary words) that they would like to own and why, or they could talk about a previous pet they owned. Remind students to use complete sentences when they are speaking!

Guided practice… Now you will be using three different center activities to help your students review their “pet” signs. Assign one group of students to each “center.” Then have students rotate from center to center.

CENTER 1
• Present each student at center 1 with a set of “pet” cards. Each set of 16 cards will have 4 cards of each pet represented on the cards (i.e. bird, dog, cat, and fish).
• Each student at this center should have their own set of “pet” cards.
• You, the teacher, will begin by signing one of the “pet” vocabulary words.
• Each student will locate the picture that matches what the teacher signed and place it in front of him/her.

• Continue signing different pets until you are ready for the students to add up the number of cards in front of them.
• The students will then add up their cards. Check to see that they correctly identified each sign.

CENTER 2
• In this center, students are going to make a “My Pets Book.”
• Each student will find four half sheets of construction paper in different colors.
• Have students cut out the 3 x 5 sign cards (from page 4) and paste one sign on the left portion of the construction paper.
• Students continue cutting and pasting until each vocabulary word is cut and pasted into place on each of the construction paper halves.
• Then show your students how they
will stack their construction paper halves one on top of the other and fold them together.

- Punch two holes into each students folded construction paper books where they will eventually be bound with yarn.
- Have students take their construction paper halves with them to center 3, where they will complete their “My Pets Book.”

**CENTER 3**
- Using page 5, students will cut out a picture of a pet and glue it on the right side of the construction paper half across from its matching sign represented in ASL on the left. Students can color their pet picture and also write a few sentences about each “pet.”
- When your students have completed the pages of their books, they should re-stack their pages by lining up the hole punch marks and tie with yarn to complete their “My Pets Book!”

**Independent practice**… For additional review, the teacher can pass out the math activity worksheet. Students will notice that not only are they practicing addition skills, but they are also reviewing their new ASL vocabulary. Review the directions with the students. Now they are ready to do some math!

**Directions:** Cut out each of the squares below. Glue the correct animal sign used in the “Practicing Addition” math worksheet, pages A and B.
Practicing Addition

Directions: Each number below has two groups of pictures. Count the first group and write the number on the line. Then count the second group and write the number on the line. Add both groups together and write that number after the equals sign. Cut out the signs from page 3. Each math problem has birds, fish, dogs or cats. You need to find the sign that represents the pictures for each number below and glue in the appropriate box. The first one has been done for you.

1. _____ + _____ = _____

2. _____ + _____ = _____

3. _____ + _____ = _____
4. ______ + ______ = ______

5. ______ + ______ = ______

6. ______ + ______ = ______

7. ______ + ______ = ______

8. ______ + ______ = ______
1.1 Signing My Pets!

bird

cat

dog

fish
Print 4 copies of this page for each student. Each set of 16 cards should have 4 cards of each pet represented on the cards (i.e. bird, dog, cat, and fish).