



I Love You Card

There are many ways to say I love you, and many unique ways of sharing your love. We think you are really going to enjoy making the **ILY** card. You may find there are many ways to use the ILY handshape, but we are going to make it into a card this month. For more craft activities and ideas, please visit www.signingtime.com or www.signingtimekids.org.

What will I need?

- 3 different colors of Construction paper (or any kind of paper you want to use to make a card)
- Scissors
- Glue
- Pencil
- Marker
- Red ribbon (optional)

Book Link:

- "I Already Know I Love You" by: Billy Crystal
(Told from a grandfather's point of view)
- "I Loved You Before You Were Born" by: Anne Bowen
(Told from a grandmother's point of view)
- "I Love You the Purplest" by: Barbara M. Josse



Rachel's signing "I Love You"

Time to Create!

Step 1: Start by choosing which color paper will make the card. Using an 8 1/2 x 11 sheet of paper, fold it in half lengthwise. Set your card aside. (For smaller hands, you might like to cut your paper in half.)

Step 2: Choose another color (different than the first). Have your child spread his/her fingers and then trace the hand. Cut out the handprint. Fold down the middle and ring fingers, so the hand looks just like Rachel's! Your hand is saying I love you in sign language! Now, glue the back side of the hand onto the center of your card (folded paper). Leave the middle and ring fingers bent, do not glue them.





Step 3: Using a piece of red paper, draw a heart and cut it out. If you are having difficulty making a nice shaped heart, you could try folding a piece of paper, and on the folded edge, draw half of a heart. Start the upper edge of your heart on the fold and end at the point of the heart on the fold. Using your scissors, begin cutting out the half of one heart. Now you will notice you have a whole heart! (If you use this method, you will notice there is a crease down the center of the heart due to folding the paper.) Next, place some glue on the backside of the heart and place it beneath the middle and index fingers that are bent. Then glue the two bent fingers to the heart. Now you have a clever place to hold the heart! Inside the card you might like to write:

*"This is a valentine just for you
I traced my own handprint, used paper and glue
in sign language I'm saying I love you!"*



This card was made by folding the paper to accommodate a toddler size hand. You might also like to use ribbon to tie a bow around the seam of the card as seen here.

Make Your Own Valentine's!

Your child could also make his/her own valentines for school! Instead of making a card, follow the directions above. On the heart your child could write "Happy Valentine's Day." Then have your child sign his/her name on the back of the hand.

