

## **Transcript**

Hello! Are you ready to begin? I recently explained the ASL Fingerspelling Principles in the previous video. Now I have another individual here, Tabitha Venable, who will help demonstrate how to fingerspell the various STEM vocabulary that you will be learning about in this study. She will spell one word at a time and go down a list of several words. I want you to observe her spelling, see how she applies the principles, and take notes for how you can apply this information to your future interpreting skills. Hi again! Were you able to catch the STEM word Tabitha was spelling? Was it easy to figure out or did you have to think about it? Were you observing the space she was using or were you looking at each individual letter? If you recall the ASL Fingerspelling Principles, you'll remember that best practice is to observe the space rather than looking for individual letters. This practice will help you catch what is being spelled rather than waiting to see each letter, such as "S-E-A-N." That approach is ineffective. Tabitha just spelled a word. Now watch the next word. Watching the two words, can you determine if they are the same word or different words? If they're different words, how did you come to that conclusion? Did you look at the space that her hand made in the air for each word, compare those spaces and patterns, and realize they're different words? Or did you not notice a difference, and you feel lost? If you feel lost, I encourage you to watch the video again carefully and you'll catch it. Now, are you ready for another example? Tabitha will spell two different words. I want you to observe each word carefully and identify the different styles and principles used in spelling each word. So far, you've seen Tabitha spell several words. You will see a different word next. Remember, it is important to follow the ASL Fingerspelling Principles. All instances of ASL fingerspelling have rules and principles that must be followed. If your fingerspelling is

fluid and comfortable, that's great! However, if you notice something hurts or feels uncomfortable, review what you did and compare it to the ASL Fingerspelling Principles. It is likely you did not follow them, causing unnecessary strain on your wrist and hand. It may feel awkward at first, but you'll get used to it. Now, you've seen Tabitha spell "genotype" and "phenotype." The beginning part of these words, "geno" and "pheno" respectively, follow different principles, whereas the second part of each word, "type," follows the same principle in both. This means that there are indeed rules that are at play. Rules governing how the second half of the word is impacted by the phoneme preceding it. When "pheno" and "geno" are combined with "type" following the Fingerspelling Principles, the words will be produced correctly. If you attempt to not follow the correct principle, it will be difficult for your audience to understand you. For example, let's break down "geno." "Genotype." And now "pheno." "Phenotype." That is the appropriate way to fingerspell each word. You cannot do it this way. No, this is the appropriate way to spell; quickly, smoothly, and following the ASL Fingerspelling Principles. I hope you are able to identify each principle and apply it yourself as you spell various words in your career. When you interact with Deaf or fluent hearing signers, please pay attention to how they fingerspell each word. Identify each principle, and apply it to your skills. If you do this rather than claiming "it's hard, it's uncomfortable, or it hurts," then you will become more fluent. Remember, if it does not feel comfortable, you are likely not following the principles!

**END**