

**This book is about me!**

**My name is  
Brad Smith**



This book will help you to  
get to know me and  
how I communicate

# Things in This Book



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# You Need to Know



Brad doesn't understand the concept of DANGER.

Brad is learning how to play with other children but still needs support with this. He likes rough and tumble play but doesn't understand when some other children don't like this.

Brad doesn't have a good understanding of how strong his grip is. He sometimes likes to grab other children's cheeks for example.

Brad LOVES to play with water.

Brad doesn't make a noise if he is hurt, has been hit or has some part of his body jammed in something. His face will look shocked/overwhelmed and you have to look for where he may have been hurt.

Brad sometimes gets overwhelmed when there are too many people and/or too many new things; he withdraws and tries to find a quiet place.

Brad doesn't like hard or crunchy food textures and is slowly getting used to a wider variety of food. You may need to slowly desensitize him to new food – first him tolerating it near him, then him touching it, then having it near his mouth, then chewing, then finally eating.

Brad sometimes resists having his nappy changed – distraction is a good technique, as is singing and/or the promise of a stamp.

# About Me and My Family



I was born on:

**10 November 2013**

This is my mummy



This is my daddy



This is Uncle Vaughn



This is Boston



This is Sophie



# My Favourite Things



I love Uncle Vaughn!

I love playing with water

I love drawing, painting and play dough

I love books

I love music and songs

I love going to the park (my favourite activity is the swing!)

I love playing dress up

I love movement and climbing

I love gymnastics

I love Mummy's iphone and watching videos of me

I love Peppa Pig

# Eating and Drinking



I like soft textures like bread, sausages and pasta and will sign 'food' if I am hungry

I like to drink water and will sign 'drink' if I am thirsty

I don't like hard textures or crunchy textures

It takes me a long time to get used to new food

It takes me time to eat and I can sometimes get distracted when there are a lot of things happening around me

I am starting to learn how to use a spoon, fork and tongs, but I need support with this

# How I Communicate



I am nearly saying words – please make what I say into words for me

I know a lot of Makaton signs – sometimes I sign them a bit differently, but please use the correct sign so I can learn them correctly, and others can learn the correct sign too. Please always say the word when you sign it

I am starting to use two signs together – please encourage me to do this more

## Good signs to know are

(sign images from [nzsl.vuw.ac.nz](http://nzsl.vuw.ac.nz))

<p>mummy</p> <p>whaea, māmā</p>	<p>daddy</p> <p>matua, pāpā</p>	<p>yes</p> <p>āe</p>	<p>no (just one hand)</p> <p>kaua, kore</p>
<p>home</p> <p>whare, teihana</p>	<p>good (just hold up)</p> <p>pai</p>	<p>morning</p> <p>ata</p>	<p>hello</p> <p>poroporoaki, haere rā, e noho rā, kia ora</p>

<p>bye</p>  <p>poroporoaki, haere rā, e noho rā, kia ora</p>	<p>more</p>  <p>nui ake, kaha ake</p>	<p>again</p>  <p>auau, hoki atu hoki atu</p>	<p>like</p>  <p>pai</p>
<p>want</p>  <p>pīrangī, hiahia</p>	<p>gone</p>  <p>riro</p>	<p>stop</p>  <p>tū</p>	<p>gentle</p>  <p>hūmārie</p>
<p>bad, wrong</p>  <p>kino, hē</p>	<p>sorry</p>  <p>mō taku hē</p>	<p>hard</p>  <p>kaha</p>	<p>easy</p>  <p>māmā, ngāwari</p>
<p>eat, food</p>  <p>kai</p>	<p>hungry</p>  <p>hiakai, matekai</p>	<p>drink</p>  <p>inu, unu</p>	<p>dry, thirsty</p>  <p>maroke, hainu, matewai</p>
<p>look, watch</p>  <p>titiro, mātakitaki</p>	<p>puzzle</p>  <p>pangahono</p>	<p>playdough</p>  <p>kere pokepoke</p>	<p>water</p>  <p>wai</p>

blocks



poraka

sand, soil



kirikiri, oneone

# Things I Like to Communicate About



I don't have words yet but I love to sign things I can see and hear and tell you about them (e.g. plane, bird, car, baby etc...)

I like to sign the words in songs, especially if someone shows me how

I am starting to 'sing' along to songs I'm familiar with and fill in words/sounds when there is a pause

# How You Can Help Me Communicate



## Please DO

- Use simple sentences
- Use signs to support language
- Add an extra word and sign when I use one
- Make what I say into words
- Give me choices
- Use images to explain
- Give me time to answer

## Please DON'T

- Think I don't understand
- Talk fast
- Give me lots of instructions at once
- Ask me more than one question at a time

# I'm Working On...



## Communication

Making my sounds into words

Using two signs

Saying sounds / words in songs

Phonics (letter and sound recognition)

Syllable recognition (e..g. tapping out two and three syllable words)

Word recognition

## Physical

Using two hands to do things

Understanding place and that everything has a place

Understanding all the parts of my body and what it does (hold, push, pull, grip, drop, pick up, turn etc etc. )

## Cognitive

Sorting items into groups

Focusing on tasks for longer periods of time

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# I Can't Stand It!



I'm not very good when it gets too busy or noisy; I then try and go somewhere quiet

I like my space and some time when I enter a new place

I often don't like to get my nappy changed, especially in a different place to home

When I can't do a fine motor skill task I give up easily- so please show me how, then withdraw support when I can do it

When someone raises their voice at me, or if I get hurt or hit, I get overwhelmed and go into my little world