Dear all,

it is probably encoded in my nature that I need to find evidences for something even if it seems there are any – as in the case of those links I have posted on moodle.

To be honest, I also do not like these baby signs things (I was so surprised how it is spread!) and I fully agree, that one of the most noticeable parameters of those ”links“ is very low rate of scientificness (at least in the area of sign language). But I do not think their describing of sign language is an intention or even bad motivation, they just want to use it as ”higher level of gestures“ in the process of therapy, because they hope, it can bring some positive results, since we know that people with speech distortion use nonverbal modality actively to compensate it, but they do not consider sign language to be functioning system of signs, which are necessary to use in strict positions and/or strict order, so their (big) mistake (or maybe better said naive approach to sign language) is they perceive sign language as “better gestures“ in the sense that signs of sign language could help us probably more than “normal“ gestures.

Thus, your (quite strictly rejecting) reactions strengthen my expectations it is complicated to implement thinking about sign language into the process of therapy of aphasia.

Anyway, I think it is also appropriate to mention possible advantages of using sign language (or at least its components) in the process of therapy:

Sign language can support brain development and increases memory. Using of sign language can enhance reading, writing and mathematical skills. Signing can reduce children’ frustration when a child is not able to express it in spoken language and it helps to get over communication barriers when a child has various disabilities (not only with the speech itself). When a child is able to acquire (albeit quite restricted) set of signs and e.g. parents and/or siblings as well, it could be another way to communicate with each other (yes, I have to admit, it is easier to acquire a set of gestures for this purpose and it is not even accurate to call it “sign language”).