

Helping Your Child With Their Handwriting

Why handwriting is important

Handwriting is important for a number of reasons:

1. Effective cursive (joined) handwriting helps children to recognize patterns in words, patterns often represented in the form of 'blends', where common letter strings are made (e.g. ing, oa, sp, th). As a result, spelling patterns are rehearsed continuously with cursive handwriting and therefore aid children in spelling both familiar and unfamiliar words.
2. Good handwriting skills help instill a sense of pride in work and therefore reduces the chance of anxiety relating to presentation becoming a barrier. In other words, they will want to write more if they feel it looks good.
3. Cursive handwriting enables pace in writing allowing more to be achieved in a short period of time.

Please take time to practice letter formations and handwriting with your child. Letter 'blends' are included as well as some text to assist in flow. Should you have any questions, please feel free to speak to the class teacher.

Gripping the pencil / pen

Many children find that their grip of the pencil hinders writing neatly. We encourage pupils to adopt the 'tripod' grip, demonstrated below.



Top tips to help you help them.

Never lose your patience when your child is learning how to write. Provide a quiet, comfortable, and warm atmosphere to work with your child. Limit the time spent practicing. No more than 10 minutes.

Take time to show your child the importance of handwriting. Let them see you writing notes and letters or look at ones you have received. If you feel uncomfortable with your own handwriting, use the resources with them and let them see that you value the skill.

Above all, practice, persist and praise!

A a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a

B b b b b b b b b b b b b b b b b b

C c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c

D d d d d d d d d d d d d d d d d d

E e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e

F f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f f

G g g g g g g g g g g g g g g g g g

H h h h h h h h h h h h h h h h

I i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i

J j j j j j j j j j j j j j j j j j

K k k k k k k k k k k k k k k k k k

L l

M m m m m m m m m m m m m m m m

N n n n n n n n n n n n n n n n n n n

O o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o

P p p p p p p p p p p p p p p p p p p

Q q q q q q q q q q q q q q q q q q q

R r r r r r r r r r r r r r r r r r r

S s s s s s s s s s s s s s s s s s s

T t

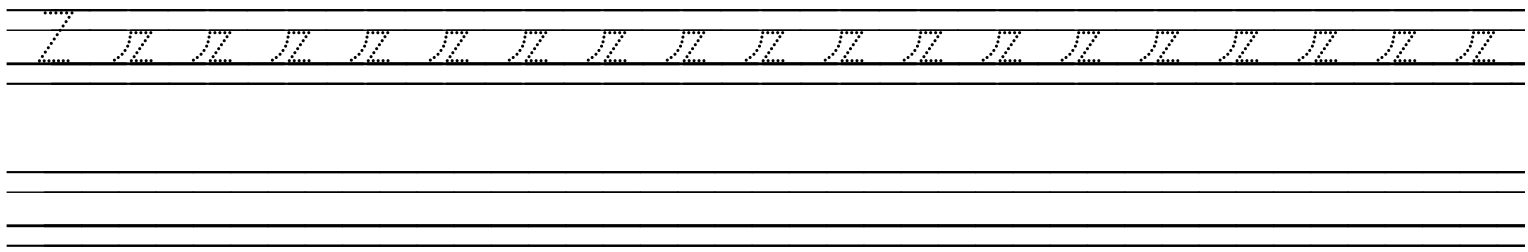
U u

V v

W w

X x

Y y



Common Blends

(Not all blends are represented. Consult your child's spelling list for other examples)

Bl bl bl bl bl bl bl bl bl bl bl bl bl

Br br br br br br br br br br br br br

Ch ch ch ch ch ch ch ch ch ch ch ch

Cl cl cl cl cl cl cl cl cl cl cl cl cl

Cr cr cr cr cr cr cr cr cr cr cr cr cr

Dr dr dr dr dr dr dr dr dr dr dr dr dr

Sh sh sh sh sh sh sh sh sh sh sh sh sk sk sk

sk sk sk sk sk sk sk sk sk sk

Sl sl sl sl sl sl sl sl sl sl sl sl sl

Sm sm sm sm sm sm sm sm sm sm sm sm

Sn sn sn sn sn sn sn sn sn sn sn sn

Sp sp sp sp sp sp sp sp sp sp sp sp

Sch sch sch sch sch sch sch sch

Scr scr scr scr scr scr scr scr scr

Sch sch sch sch sch sch sch sch

Spl spl spl spl spl spl spl spl spl

Spr spr spr spr spr spr spr spr spr

Oa oa oa oa oa oa oa oa oa oa oa
Ai ai ai ai ai ai ai ai ai ai ai ai ai ai ai
Ay ay ay ay ay ay ay ay ay ay ay ay ay ay ay
Ed ed ed ed ed ed ed ed ed ed ed ed ed ed ed
Ing ing ing ing ing ing ing ing ing ing ing
Text -Practice text for 'flow'

Solomon Grundy

Solomon Grundy,
Born on a Monday,
Christened on Tuesday,
Married on Wednesday,
Took ill on Thursday,
Grew worse on Friday,
Died on Saturday,
Buried on Sunday,
That is the end of Solomon Grundy.

Thirty days hath September

Thirty days hath September,
April, June, and November;
All the rest have thirty-one,
Save February, with twenty-eight days
clear,

And twenty-nine each leap year.

Bees

A swarm of bees in May
Is worth a load of hay;
A swarm of bees in June
Is worth a silver spoon;
A swarm of bees in July
Is not worth a fly.

Doctor Foster

Doctor Foster went to Gloucester,
In a shower of rain;
He stepped in a puddle, up to his middle,
And never went there again.