

Current letter formation

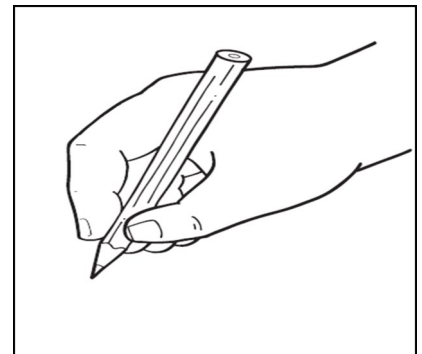
a b c d e f g h i j k l m
n o p q r s t u v w x y z

Cursive letter formation

a b c d e f g h i
j k l m n o p q r
s t u v w x y z

Ideas to develop fine and gross motor skills at home

- “Magic writing” - letter formation practise using a finger in a tray of flour/glitter/jelly/sand etc.
- Cutting out pictures from catalogues, cutting own pictures or along different wavy/zig-zag lines.
- Modelling materials—clay, plastecine, playdough, sand etc.
- Painting and printing
- Threading beads./buttons/pasta to a timer—can they beat their own score?
- Use water pistols to reach a target or “paint” outdoor bricks with paintbrushes and water or chalk, use bath crayons.
- Fix lego, screw and unscrew lids, post pennies in a moneybox, sprinkle seeds.
- Fold paper to make shapes/envelopes
- Wash walls with soap and brushes
- Mop the floor! Or sweep up leaves!
- Draw circles on large pieces of paper
- Use large rollers/brushes
- Pull up bodies on rope/climbing frames
- Ribbon and scarf twirling



The technical terms!

Noun	A <i>noun</i> is a word that names a person, place or thing. E.g. Miss Addison, Lymington, pencil
Adjective	An <i>adjective</i> describes a noun. E.g. soft, large, dark, sharp
Verb	A <i>verb</i> is an action word. E.g. run, draw, sit, sleep, cry
Adverb	An <i>adverb</i> describes a verb. E.g. quickly, excitedly, silently.
Noun phrase	A phrase made up of a noun and at least one adjective. E.g. a gigantic, green troll.
Co-ordinative clause	A clause which is used to join two short sentences which would still make sense on their own. I have a sister and Jane has a brother.
Subordinate clause	A subordinate clause is a clause that would make no sense if taken out of the sentence. He took out a book that he had seen earlier.

Ideas to support writing at home

- Practise letter formation (and cursive handwriting)
- Make a photo book for your child to write captions.
- Keep a diary especially if you are doing something different or exciting! Your child can draw the pictures or stick in photos. This diary could be a webpage on a computer.
- Make a scrapbook. Your child can find old magazine or newspaper pictures about a favourite topic or do your family, the latest toy craze etc. Stick onto blank pages with room to write captions too.
- Play with words. Finding and discussing new words can help increase the number of words your child uses when they write. Look up words in the dictionary or on the internet or talk to family about the meaning and origin of words.
- Write lists "things I need from the shop", "games to play when I am bored", "things I want to do in the holidays". The last one can be cut up and put into a box or bag for a lucky dip for when the holidays arrive.
- Write out a recipe or instructions for other people to follow.
- Write letters, cards and emails to friends and family/the tooth fairy. You may want to reply sometimes!
- Make up different endings to a favourite story together and ask your child to write them down.
- Ask them to write about pictures they draw. Get them to tell you the story!