

Fine Motor Skills... Write Out of the Box!®

A Sequenced Approach to Teaching Letter Formation

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A logical sequence for teaching letter formation is based upon the sequence of pre-writing stroke and symbol development in young children. See pre-writing stroke and symbol chronology below:

Prewriting Strokes by Child's Age in Years-Months

<u>Age in Years-Months</u>	<u>Shape/Symbol Able to be Copied from a Model</u>
2-10	vertical line (top to bottom reinforced)
3-0	- horizontal line
3-0	O circle
4-1	+
4-4	/
4-6	square with defined sides
4-7	\
4-11	X
5-3	triangle with defined sides and corners

Sequence for teaching letter formation progresses from simple to more complex forms just as pre-writing shapes and symbols develop. Group the teaching of letter forms as follows:

Group 1: li, Ll, Tt, Ff, Ee, Dd

Group 2: Oo, Cc, Jj, Gg, Qq

Group 3: Pp, Bb, Hh, Rr, Ss

Group 4: Uu, Aa, Mm, Nn, Zz

Group 5: Kk, Vv, Ww, Xx, Yy

Handwriting is an instruction-based transcription skill. Please note, there is no substitute for provision of explicit, formal handwriting instruction based on excellent curriculum. Enhance engagement and interest in handwriting by providing students with a variety of fun letter formation learning experiences without pencils such as salt, shaving cream, Wikki Stix®, stickers, and stamping. These activities reinforce the cognitive aspect of letter formation without the dual demand of simultaneously managing a pencil.

Use a developmentally sequenced approach to teaching letter formation...Write Out of the Box!