

Parents' Handwriting Workshop

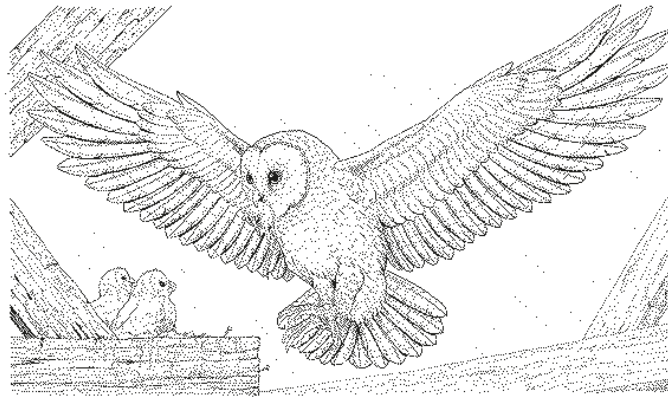
Ros Morgan



DO NOW

- Practise completing the handwriting sheets on your table.

Write this well-known rhyme
in your best handwriting.



A little boy went into a barn
And lay down on some hay.
An owl came out, and flew about,
And the little boy

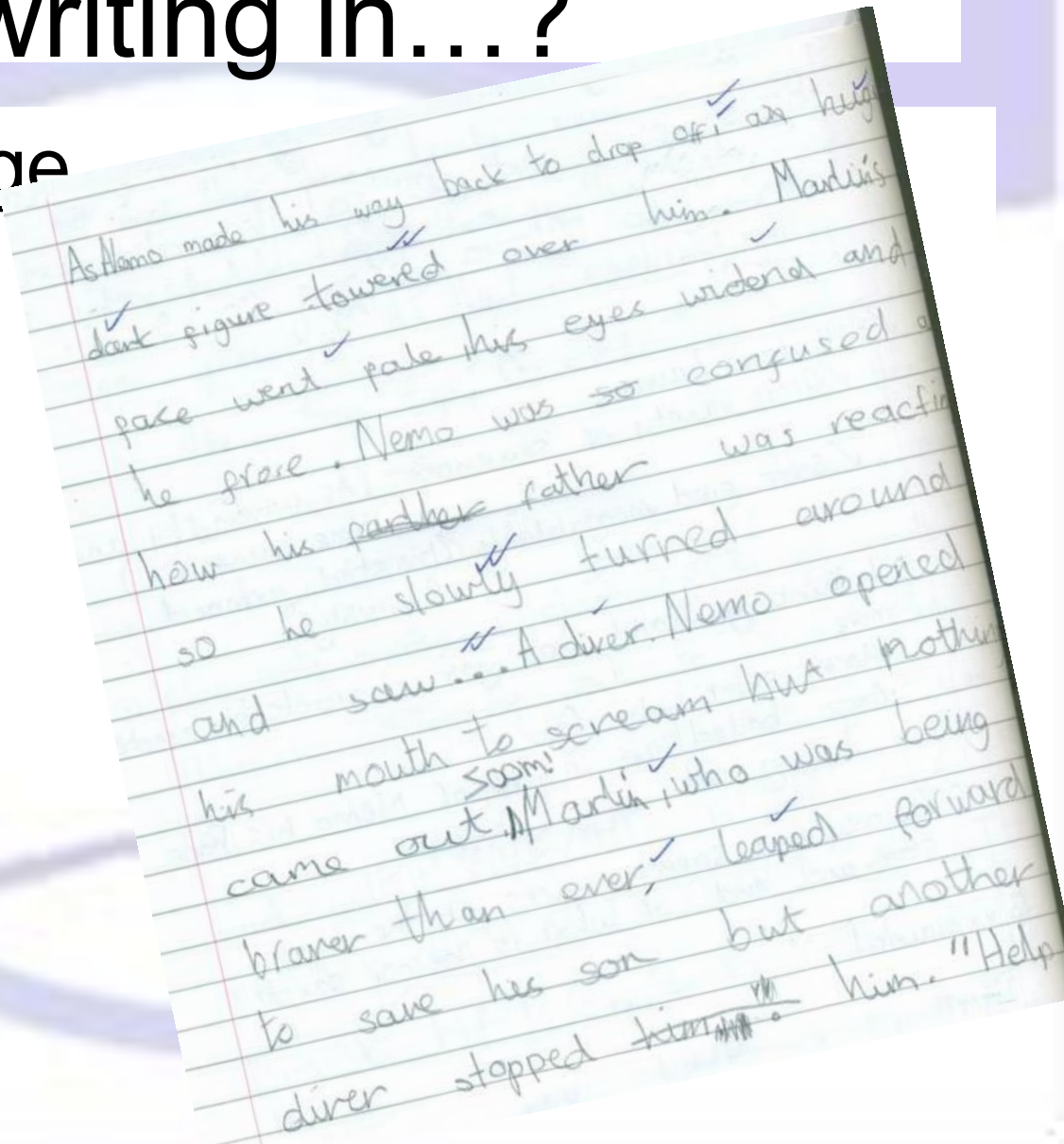
What will we cover?

- Handwriting formation
- Progression into joining
- Pre-writing skills – fine motor control
- Common Errors
- Resources
- How you can support at home



What are the main issues with handwriting in...?

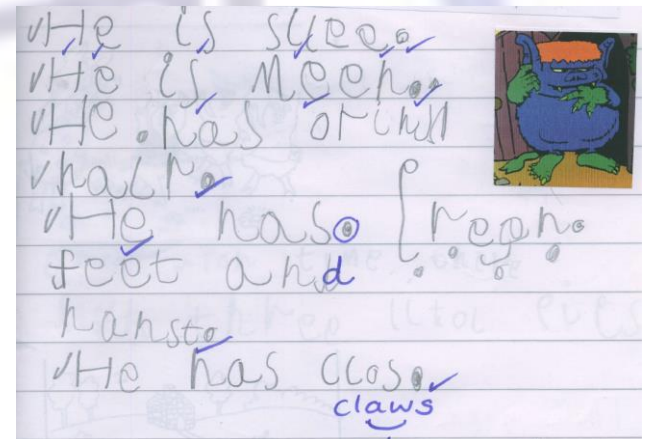
- Foundation stage
- Year 1 and 2
- KS2



Common Errors

•Grip!

- Writing not sitting on line
- Trunk letters at same height
- Ascenders and descenders are at correct height.
- Letter formation
- Letters not joined correctly
- Letter spacing.
- Pressure.
- Poor fine and gross motor skills/ muscle tone



Facts

- A British survey found that 40% of people had not written by hand in the past six months.
- In the USA it is no longer mandatory for teaching of any kind of handwriting.
- A French study in 2013 has found that handwriting is essential in developing reading skills.
 - Children who learnt words for spelling by hand were able to more accurately recall them for reading and writing.
 - They called this a “reading circuit”

Source: “Les élèves doivent garder la main !” *Science et Vie*. Août 2013.

Progression in handwriting

Year	Stage	Examples
Nursery	Pre-writing skills	Any fine and gross motor skill activity Climbing/ building with lego Manipulating playdough Finger painting
Reception	Pre-writing skills Letter Formation Number formation Settled dominant hand for writing Grip Body position	Cutting/ making/ Scrunching/ twisting Shredding paper/ playdough Balance activities Crossing the midline Writing templates Whole body formation Encouragement of emerging writing Chalk/ painting Building – spatial activities Threading beads

Letter formation for FS

C curve letters

a c d g o q

Down, up and over letters

b h m n p r

Letters that descend below the line

g j q p y

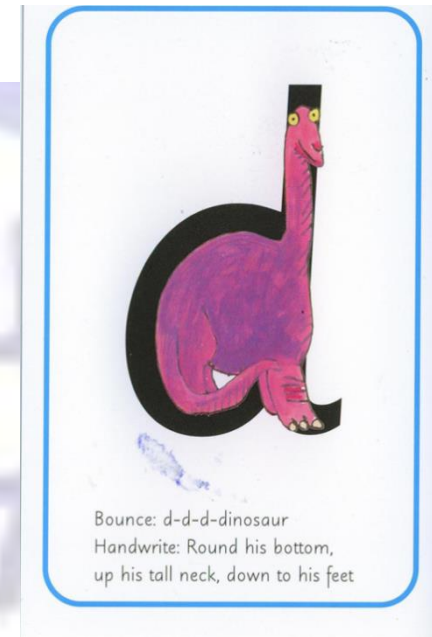
Tall letters

b d h k l t

X height letters

a c e i m n o r s

u v w x z



Progression in handwriting

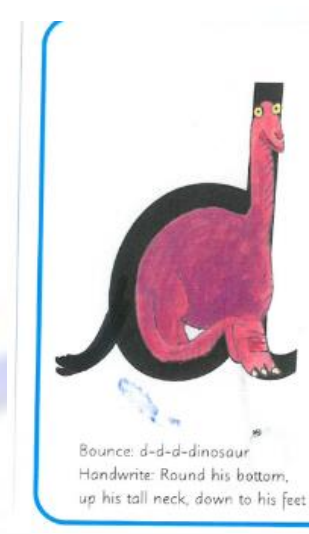
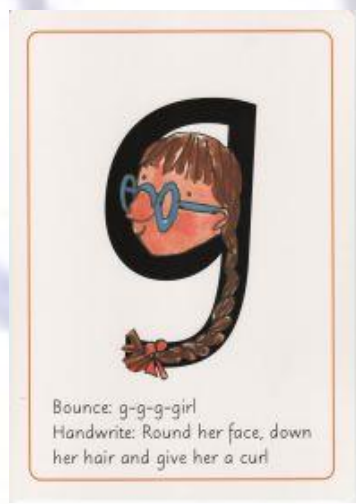
Year 1	<p>4 times per week</p> <p>Patterns are taught</p> <p>Letters are re-taught with lead -in</p> <p>Securing letter size (including Capitals)</p> <p>Ascenders and Descenders</p> <p>Letters on line</p> <p>Children begin to join when all letters are formed well with consistent size and accuracy.</p>	<p>Mini whiteboards</p> <p>Handwriting Books with tramlines</p> <p>Focus into transferring skills into other areas of learning.</p>
Year 2	<p>4-5 times per week</p> <p>Continue learning joins</p> <p>Skip lines (smaller lined books)</p> <p>Continue to focus on letter size</p> <p>Intervention where necessary</p>	<p>Handwriting books</p> <p>Joined up spellings</p>
Year 3 +	<p>Intervention – where necessary</p> <p>Handwriting reinforced 3x weekly</p> <p>Skip lines</p>	<p>Handwriting books leading into handwriting in normal sized literacy books.</p> <p>Joined up spellings</p>
Year 4 - 6	<p>Handwriting guidance throughout all learning including modelling where appropriate. Discrete lessons where appropriate.</p> <p>Pen licence from Year 4 (where appropriate)</p> <p>Intervention</p>	

Progression into pre-cursive and then
cursive...



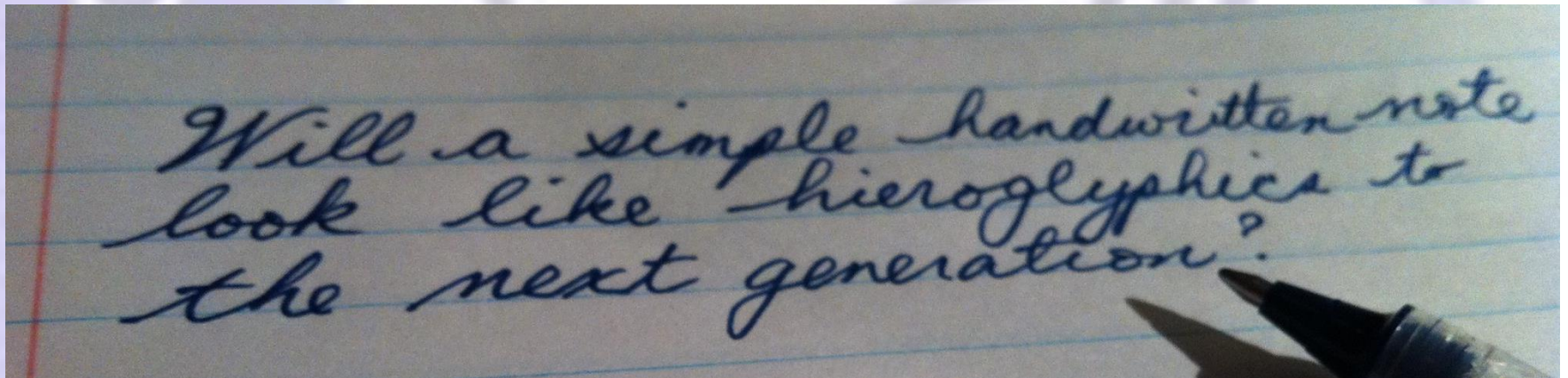
Ready
Line
Go

Ready (children check grip and position)
Line (all put pencil on line).
Go (move to original starting position for
print letters)



What is cursive handwriting?

The most widely recommended handwriting style is called continuous cursive. Its most important feature is that each letter is formed without taking the pencil off the paper – and consequently, each word is formed in one, flowing movement.



The key advantages to this system are:

- By making each letter in one movement, children's hands develop a 'physical memory' of it, making it easier to produce the correct shape;
- Having a lead in and out stroke avoids confusion about where to begin letter formation;
- Because letters and words flow from left to right, children are less likely to reverse letters which are typically difficult (like b/d or p/q);
- There is a clearer distinction between capital letters and lower case;
- The continuous flow of writing ultimately improves speed and spelling;
- It helps children's writing to be clear, fluent legible and fast.
- This has also proved beneficial for children with poor hand control and for dyslexic children.
- The pencil does not often need to be lifted from the page – this reinforces phonic and spelling patterns.

✓ that
sp A jet got A they
get to the
with
sp ground with a
bump. ✓
✓ hurt
They get hits. ✓

Year 1 pre-cursive

✓
p He had big sharp curly
hairs
hairs. ✓

Year 1 transition into
cursive.

My literacy targets are:

- To use a range of **joining words**.
- To **sound out** words and use **spelling rules**.

My handwriting target is:

- To start to **join** my letters. join

Suddenly, the beedy eagle swooped
swooped down and grab the teri
lizard. Moments ~~late~~ later, Anders
sprinted as fast as he could and
swoosh to the forest.

Year 2
Cementing print into
cursive.

Dear Scrubbing Brush,
Wh Where un up are you my
dear Scrubbing Brush?
I am feeling distraught and
very lonely. I

Primary School

The best week of my italian
Life.

For a summer treat my family
went into a vila in italy in
all we did is go in the
To eat an ice-cream every day (i

Year 4 boy September

The genie's lamp was dusty and lay abandoned
the stand alone.

wednesday 25th November 2015

LO: Two write sentences using fronted adverbials

1. Gabriel burped loudly at lunch and miss Dutey
him off. ☺

Loudly, Gabriel burped at lunch and miss Dutey
him off.

2. Fido screamed loudly on the play-date.

Same Year 4 boy November

What does this look like for upper KS2?

I picked up a book and it
05 4 books

Conclusion:
It took 4 books to balance

Investigation 2
Force arm 25cm
Weight arm 75cm

Year 5 girl September

In the morning, we have
and the sun appears to
the sky.

A round lunchtime, we have
and the sun appears to be
sky.

Same Year 5 girl November

Getting ready to write



Are you sitting comfortably with both feet on the floor?



Are you holding your pencil correctly?



Is your paper at the correct angle?



Remember the 3 P's

- Posture
 - Pencil
 - Paper
- Seating and lighting is also important.



Tripod Grip



Don't do this!



Grip and
sitting
position



Warm-up games

Crossing the midline

Cross crawl

Hook ups

Double doodle

Crazy 8's

Gross motor skills

Fine motor skills

Video - Incey Wincey Spider



Handwriting rhyme

1,2, 3, 4

Are my feet flat on the floor?

5, 6, 7, 8

Is my back nice and straight?

9,10,11, 12,

Is my pencil properly held?



Now let's have a go at forming these letters.

Cursive Upright (Books 1A–1B)

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

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

The quick brown fox jumps
over the lazy dog.

Cursive Slanted (Books 2–6)





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




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

The quick brown fox jumps
over the lazy dog.

Specific letter style options

The reasoning behind each cursive letter style option chosen for use in *Collins Primary Focus: Handwriting* was discussed with several Literacy and SpLD (Dyslexic) practitioners who agreed with the choices.

	Chosen because, looped from the back, it is easiest to link to all other letters, always joining the same way and thus more fluent.
	Chosen because it joins in the same way whether it is at the beginning, in the middle or at the end of a word, thus making it fluent and meaning there is less for children to learn.
	Chosen because it is more legible, most like the printed 'v' and less likely to be confused with the letter 'u'.
	Chosen because it is more legible, most like the printed 'w' and less likely to be confused with the letter 'u'.

	<p>This is the only small letter that requires the pencil/pen to be lifted from the paper. This style was chosen because it will join and because it is most like its precursive counterpart.</p> <p>A curved 'x' can often be confused for the letters 'sc'; this is particularly so for dyslexic and less able readers.</p>
	Chosen because it is more legible, most like the printed 'y' and doesn't involve taking the pencil/pen off the paper.
	Chosen because it will join and because it is most like its precursive counterpart.

Have a go at writing these words:

check	forgot
assume	what
over	oboe
insane	attention
wood	bigger
for	Egypt

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

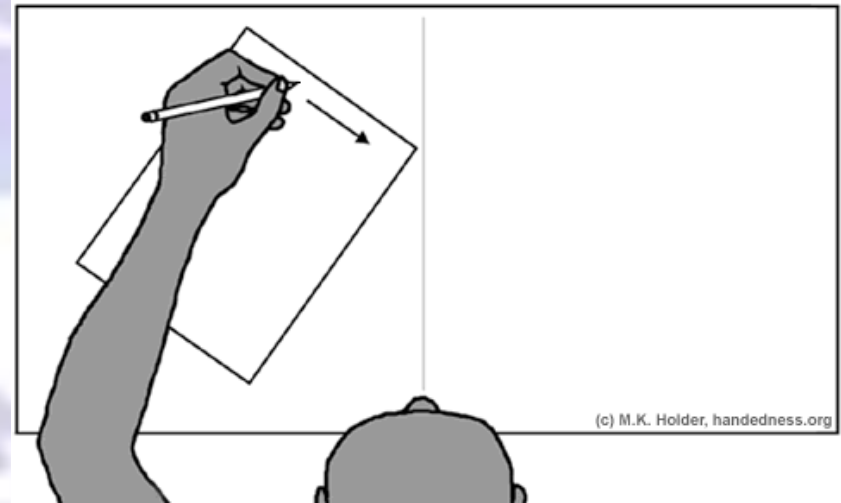
a b c d e f g h i j k l m

n o p q r s t u v w x y z

The quick brown fox jumps
over the lazy dog.

Left handers

- Sitting position

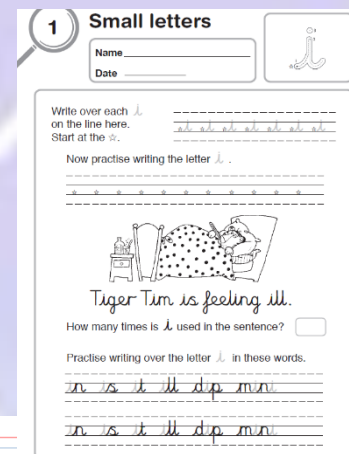


- Position paper so that it is completely to left of child (never let it cross midline).
- Angle paper (you will need to do this for them) at a parallel angle to forearm (approx 45° angle – much greater than right handers) – use tape so chn know where to put paper.
- Specialist products (scissors, rulers, pens etc.)

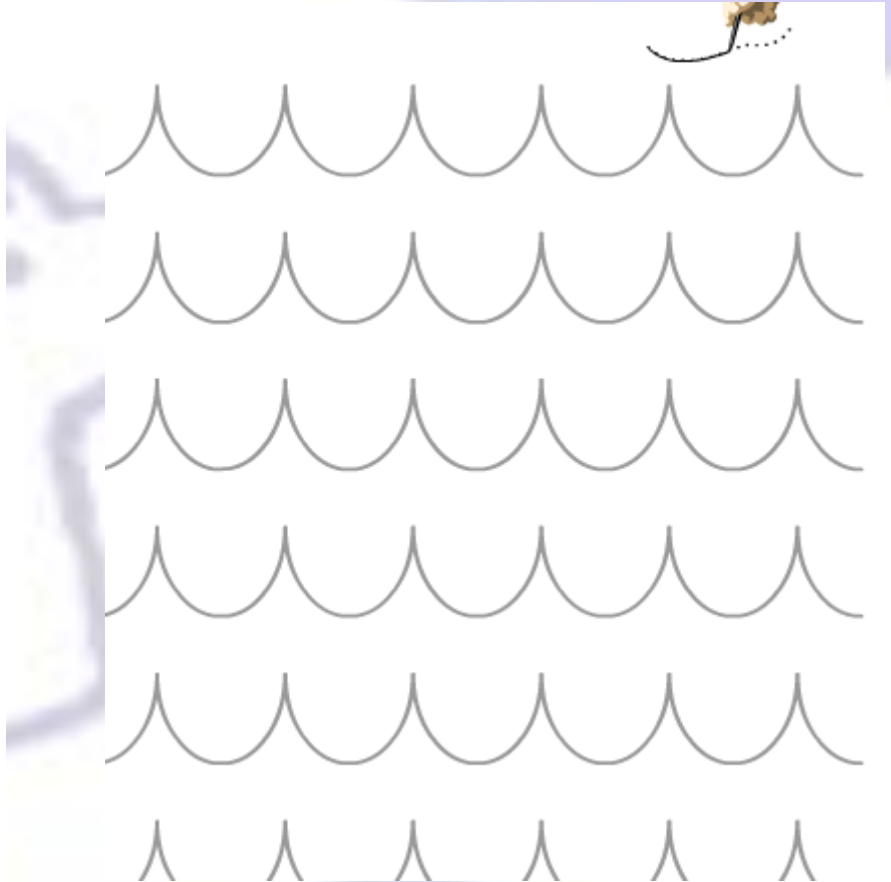
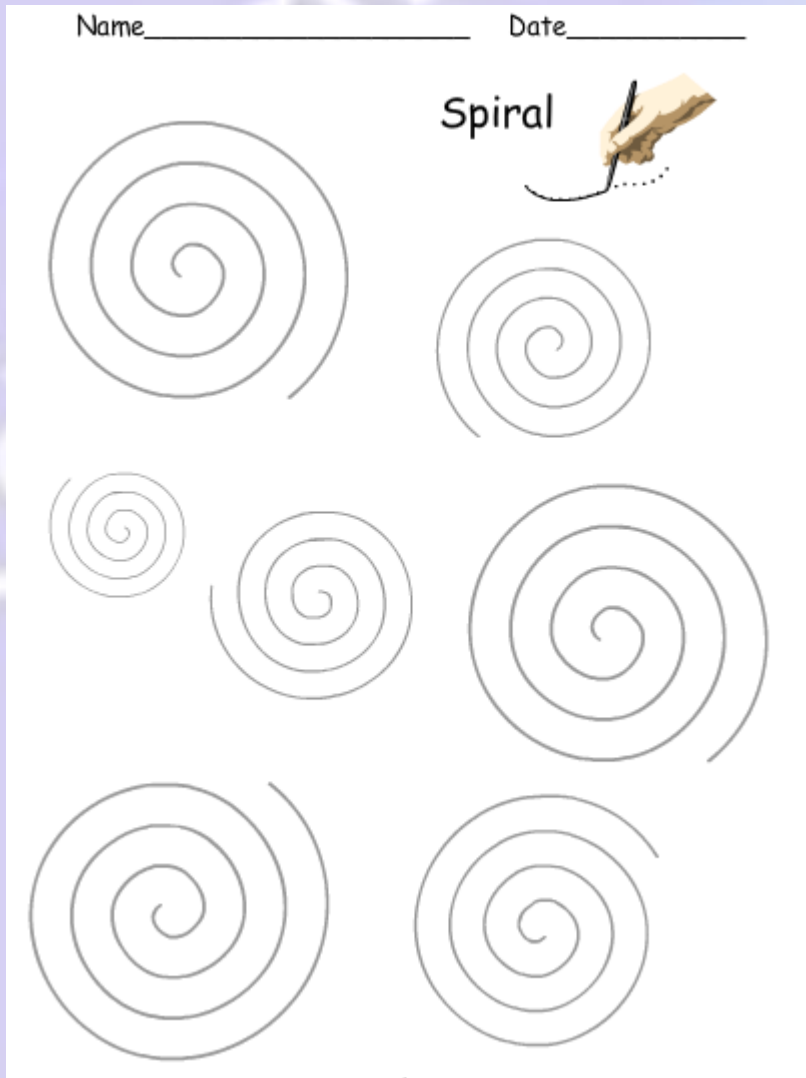


Resources used in school

- Collins Handwriting program
- Handwriting books and sharp pencils
- Whiteboards and pens
- Triangular pencils
- Go over children's hands to form
- General strength and fine motor dev exercises
- Practical activities – sandpaper letters, paint, sand, chalks, fat felt pens,



Online resources



<http://www.senteacher.org/Print/Literacy/>

<http://www.senteacher.org/Print/Literacy/>

Please.....

- Additional handwriting support at home – only with support of teacher (be careful of over-burdening your child)
- Reminder of 3 Ps – Posture, pencil (grip) and paper
- Little and often
- Focus on formation – over neatness and size
- Later focus on size

