



Handwriting Workshop

January 2020

Aims of the Session



- To recognise the importance of handwriting
- To understand how handwriting is taught across our school
- To identify ways to support your child's handwriting at home

By the end of Reception



40-60 months-

- Shows a preference for a dominant hand
- Begins to use anticlockwise movement and retrace vertical lines
- Begins to form recognisable letters
- Uses a pencil and holds it effectively to form recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed

ELG-

- Children handle tools and equipment effectively, including pencils for writing

What we focus on-

- Prewriting skills
- Letter formation
- Number formation
- Dominant hand for writing
- Grip
- Body Position

Examples

- Fine motor activities- cutting/threading/pegs
- Whole body/sensory formation
- Encouragement of emergent writing
- Chalk/painting
- Letter rhymes



I Watched a
dinosaur movie
it was sooper
exciting

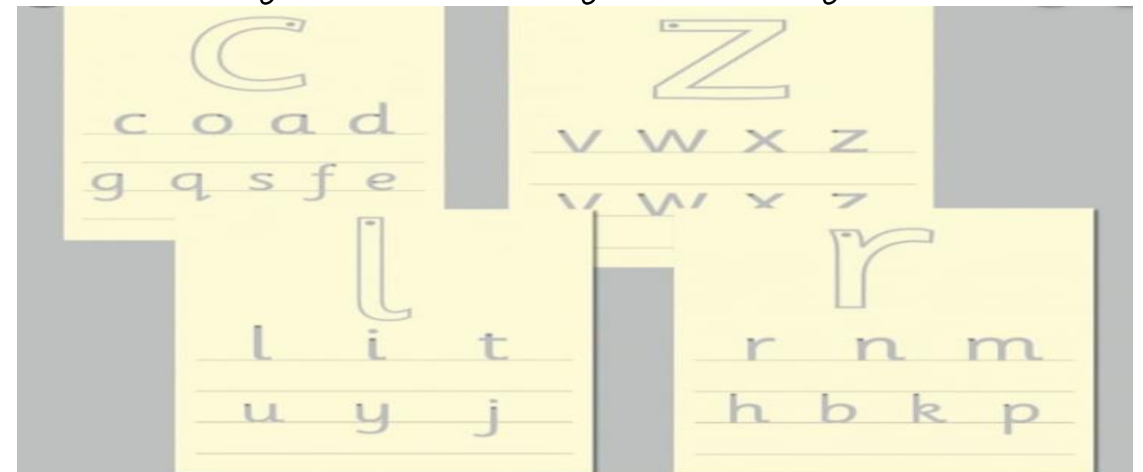
By the end of Year 1



- Sits correctly at a table, holding a pencil comfortably and correctly
- Begins to form lower case letters in the correct direction, starting and finishing in the right place i.e. middle or top
- Forms capital letters
- Forms digits 0-9
- Understand which letters belong to which handwriting 'families' (letters that are formed in similar ways)
- Makes distinction in most writing between ascenders and descenders and other 'between the line' letters
- Clearly distinguishes between similar looking letters e.g. h/n a/g a/e etc

What we focus on-

- Letter families
- Upper and lower case letters
- Handwriting lessons once a week
- Morning starter activities
- Reminders in other areas of the curriculum



By the end of Year 2



- Form capital letters and digits of the correct size, orientation and relationship to one another and to lower case letters
- Use spaces between words that reflects the size of the letters

At Greater Depth

- Use the diagonal and horizontal strokes needed to join some letters

What we focus on-

- Recapping letter families
- Handwriting lessons once a week
- Types of joins

Handwriting Joins



- First join to letters without ascenders

un um ig id ed eg an or ing ung

- Second join to letters with ascenders

ch th tl ll ill ck ack ink unk

- Third join- horizontal joins

od re ve oon oom

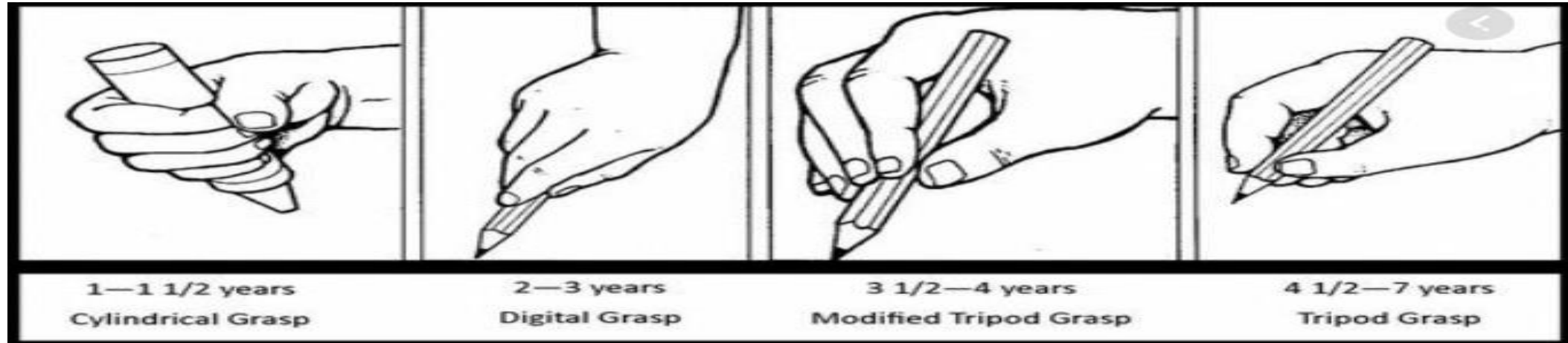
- Fourth join horizontal joins to letters with ascenders

wl vl of ff fl flo

Common Errors



- Grip!



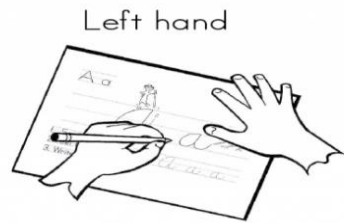
- Writing not sitting on the line
- Ascenders and descenders at the correct height
- Letter formation
- Letters not joined correctly letter spacing
- Pressure
- Weak fine and gross motor skills

Create a place for your child to write with various pens, pencils and paper



Letter rhymes

Think of the 3 P's - posture, pencil grip and paper in the correct position



Left corners of paper are up. Bottom right corner points toward your body.



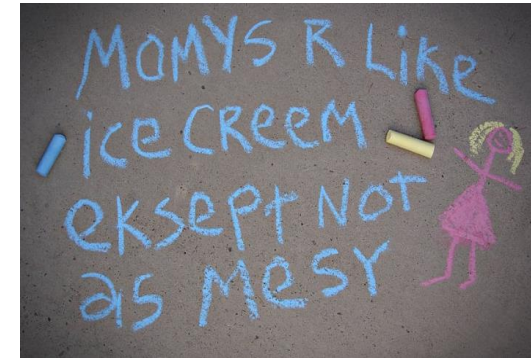
Right corners of paper are up. Bottom left corner points toward your body.

Fine motor skills: scissors, pegging washing, popping bubble wrap



Supporting Writing at Home

Computers/Apps: letter join



Practise using different materials to keep it fun - chalks, bath crayons, whiteboard pens





Any Questions???