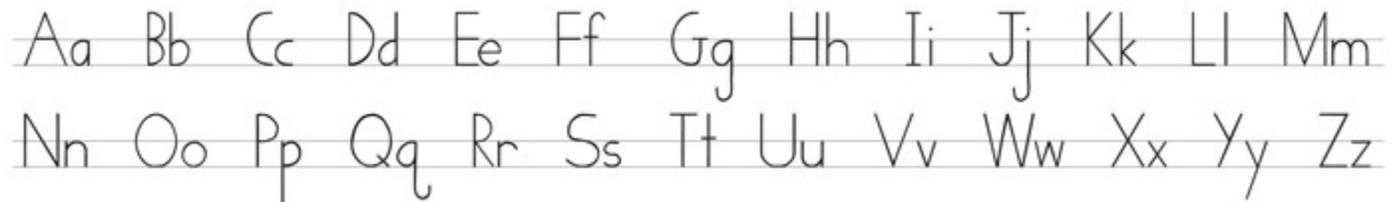


# The Handwriting Without Tears Difference

## Printing

The Handwriting Without Tears® Printing Program prepares students for writing in all their classes. We emphasize hands-on teaching strategies and language arts skills including sentence, word, and paragraph composition.

Our clean, vertical style and developmentally appropriate teaching order make printing easy. Special Review and Mastery sections in the student workbooks promote fluency and legibility.



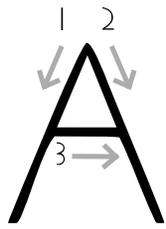
### Features:

- Natural, developmental progression of letter lessons
- Simple and effective techniques for letter formation
- Multisensory lessons for letter, word, and sentence practice

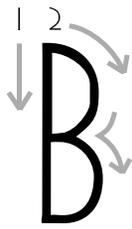
### Highlights:

- Review and Mastery activities to foster fluency
- Large step-by-step instructions with charming illustrations
- Valuable support for other language arts activities
- Double lines for correct letter placement and easy transition to notebook paper

# Handwriting Without Tears®



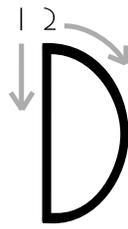
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Big line  
Little line



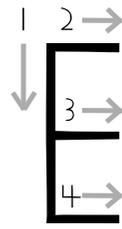
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Little curve  
Little curve



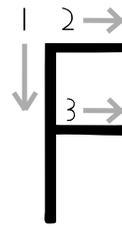
Big C curve



Big line  
Big curve



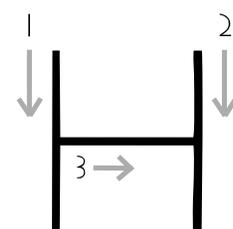
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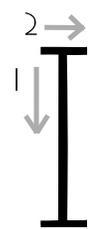
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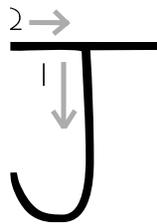
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Little line



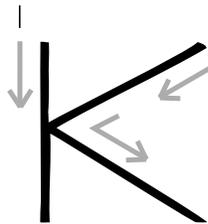
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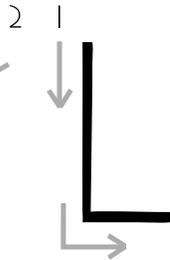
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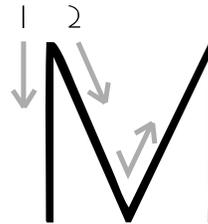
Big line  
Turn  
Little line



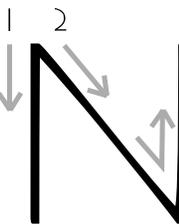
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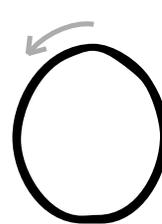
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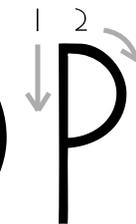
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Big line  
Big line



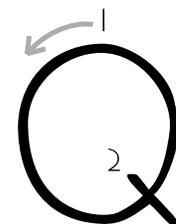
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Big line  
Big line



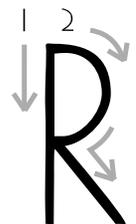
Big C curve  
Keep going



Big line  
Little curve



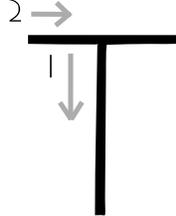
Big C curve  
Keep going  
Little line



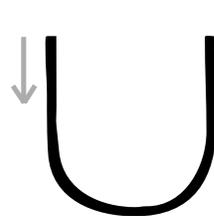
Big line  
Little curve  
Little line



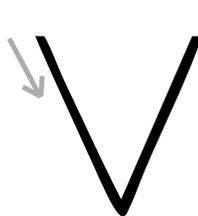
Little curve  
Turn  
Little curve



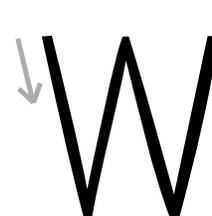
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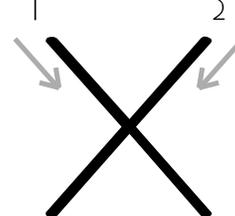
Big line  
Turn  
Big line



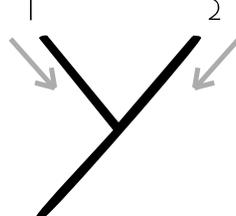
Big line  
Big line



Big line  
Big line  
Big line  
Big line



Big line  
Big line



Little line  
Big line



Little line  
Big line  
Little line

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# Help Me Write My Name

"That's my name. My name starts with \_\_\_\_." Maybe your child is trying to write or even make letters you can recognize. If so, then it's time to start demonstrating how to write a few letters. Here's how:

1. Be a good example.
2. Write in all capitals.
3. Start every letter at the top.
4. Teach letters step-by-step.
5. Write on paper strips with a smiley face in the top left corner.



## How can I be a good example?

Hold the crayon correctly. Your child will be watching how you form letters and hold the crayon or pencil. Be a good model. You may need to make a special effort to hold the crayon correctly.

## Why should I use all capitals?

Capitals are the first letters that children can visually recognize and remember. They are the first letters children can physically write. If a child can write his or her name correctly in capitals, you may introduce lowercase letters.

## Does it matter where my student starts?

Yes, it does. English has one basic rule for both reading and writing: read and write from top to bottom, left to right. When you write with a child, always start at the top.

## What do I say when I teach the letters?

Always say, "I start at the top." Then describe the part you're making. Say "big" or "little" for size. Say "line" or "curve" for shape, like this:  
**D** = "I start at the top. I make a big line. Now I make a big curve."

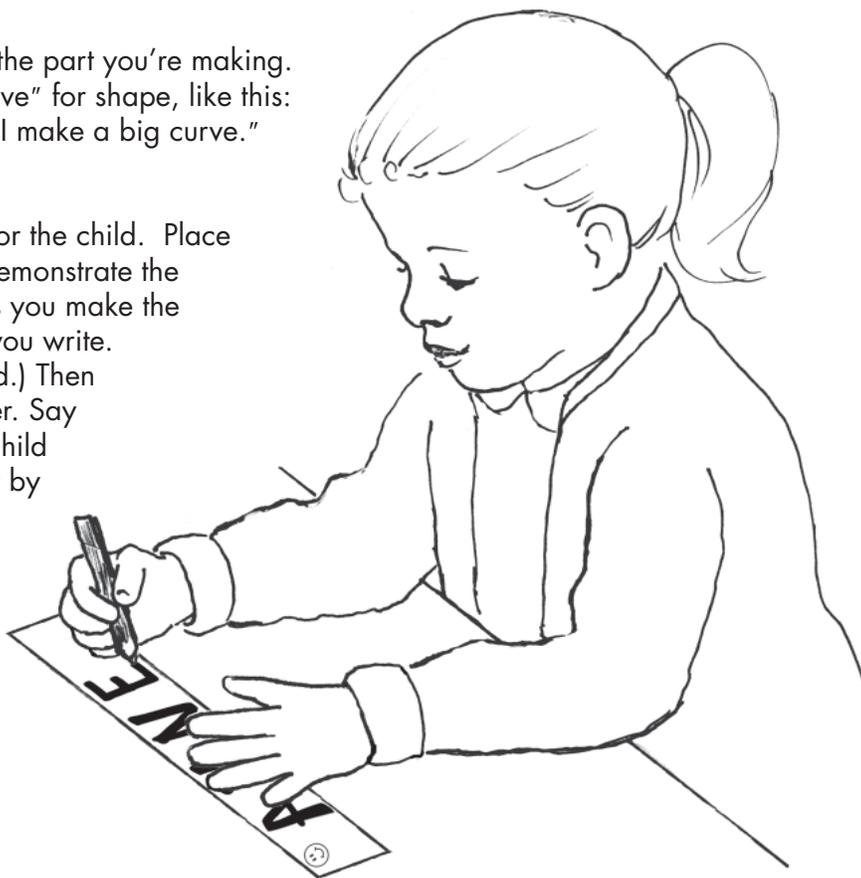
## What do I use and how do I do this?

Use two strips of paper, one for you and one for the child. Place your strip directly above the child's strip and demonstrate the first letter in the child's name. Say each step as you make the letter. Be sure the child can see the strokes as you write. (Avoid blocking the child's view with your hand.) Then tell the child to make the letter on his/her paper. Say the steps as the child writes, encouraging the child to say the steps aloud with you. Continue letter by letter.

## NOTE:

**To Make Paper strips** – Use a standard sheet. Fold it in half the long way, and then in half again. Cut on folds to make 4 strips.

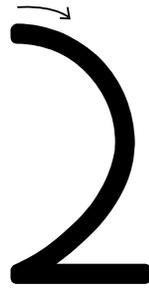
**Extra help** – If the child has difficulty imitating your letter, you may use a gray crayon to pre-write each letter on the child's paper. Do this letter by letter and let the child crayon trace over your letter. Make your gray letters progressively lighter and discontinue pre-writing as child gains ability.



# Handwriting Without Tears®



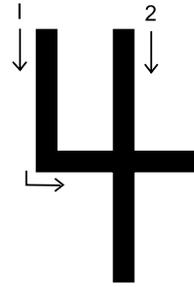
1 starts in the starting corner.  
1 makes a big line down.  
1 stops in the corner.



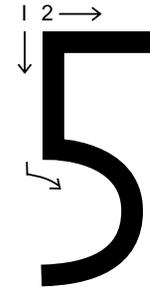
2 starts in the starting corner.  
2 makes a big curve.  
2 stops in the corner.  
2 walks away on the bottom.



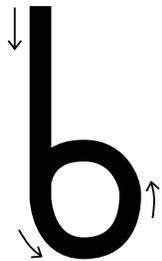
3 starts in the starting corner.  
3 makes a little curve to the middle.  
3 makes another little curve to the bottom corner.



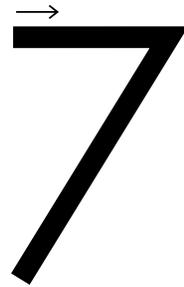
4 starts in the starting corner.  
4 makes a little line down to the middle.  
4 walks across the dark night.  
4 jumps to the top and says, "I did it." (big line down)



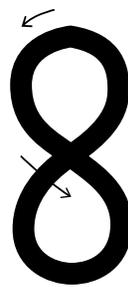
5 starts in the starting corner.  
5 makes a little line down to the middle. It starts to rain.  
5 makes a little curve around.  
5 puts a little line on top to stop the rain.



6 starts in the starting corner.  
6 is a baby bear.  
6 goes down to curl up in the corner.  
6 is hibernating.



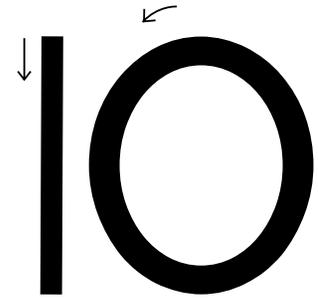
7 starts in the starting corner.  
7 makes a little line across the top.  
7 says, "I better slide down."



8 is different.  
8 doesn't like corners.  
8 starts at the top center.  
8 begins with S and then says, "I want to go home."



9 is so special.  
9 has its own corner.  
9 makes a little curve.  
9 goes up to the corner.  
9 makes a big line down.



10 uses two places.  
1 comes first.  
0 is next.  
0 starts at the top center.  
10 is finished.

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# Help Me Hold the Crayon

There are easy ways to help your child. Even if you're not a teacher, and don't hold the pencil correctly yourself, you can still be a very good influence on your child. Here's how:



1. Choose the right writing tools.
2. Show your child how to hold them.
3. Be a good example.

## How do I choose the right writing tools?

- As soon as your child is past age 3 or the puts-things-in-his-mouth swallowing stage, give him or her little broken pieces of chalk or crayon and lots of big sheets of paper for loose scribbling/drawing.
- Little pieces of finger food also encourage finger skills.

## Why little pieces?

Little pieces develop fingertip control and strength. They encourage the precise pinch that's used for crayons and pencils. Notice how well your child uses his/her fingers with little pieces. There's research to show that starting with small pieces encourages the correct grasp.

## What about regular crayons and pencils?

They're fine, but you must show your child how to hold and use them. Save the pencils for later. Pencils are sharp pointed sticks and really aren't appropriate for beginners. Fat pencils and crayons are too heavy for little hands.

## When should I start?

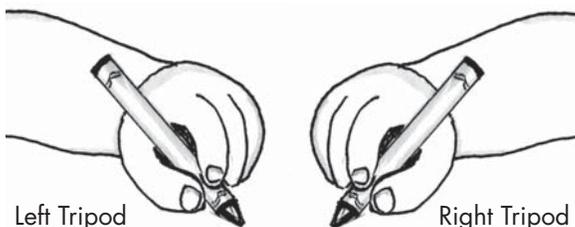
Right now. You can start showing your child how to use crayons as soon as your child wants to color.

## How do I show my child?

1. Teach your child to name the first 3 fingers – the thumb, the pointer, and the tall man.
2. Move them - Give a thumbs up and wiggle the thumb. Have your child point with the pointer finger and then put the tall man beside the pointer finger.
3. Make a big open O pinch – this positions the thumb and pointer correctly.

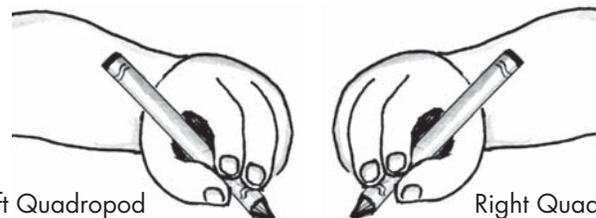
## What is the correct grip?

Here's a picture. Notice that there is a choice. Some children like to pinch with the thumb and pointer. That's the tripod (3—pinch with thumb and pointer, pencil rests on tall man). Others like the quadropod (4—pinch with thumb and pointer/tall man together, pencil rests on ring finger).



Left Tripod

Right Tripod



Left Quadropod

Right Quadropod

## What else can I do?

1. Pick up and Drop it! This is a fun way to practice placing the fingers correctly. Help your child pick up the pencil and get all the fingers placed. Then drop it! See if your child can put all the fingers back in the right place again. Repeat two or three times.
2. Aim and Scribble. Make tiny stars or spots on paper. Teach your child how to aim the crayon and land on a star to make it shine. Help the crayon hand rest on the paper, with the elbow down and the hand touching the paper. Help the helper hand hold the paper. Now just wiggle the fingers to scribble.
3. Show your child how to hold and move the crayon to make different strokes, back and forth, up and down, round and round.