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## Tips

- Correct letter formation is not just important for developing legible handwriting, but also to increase writing speed. Furthermore, correct letter formation help prevent reversals such as $/ \mathrm{b} /$ and $/ \mathrm{d} / \mathrm{i} . e$. $/ \mathrm{d} /$ goes around to the left, just the $/ \mathrm{g} /$ and $/ \mathrm{a} /$, but $/ \mathrm{b} /$ goes down and up and around to the right, like /p/.

- Introduce the sound and letter formation using a rhyme, song or catchy saying e.g. /a/ for apple - around the apple, up the branch and down the branch.
- Practise writing the letter in the air.
- Practise writing the letter on newspaper, small chalkboards or whiteboards. First write the letters big, before transitioning to smaller and smaller letters.
- Use a picture on the left side of the page where letters are placed within the line, e.g. /a/ is placed in the line where the "cat's body" is.

- Teach children the commonalities between letters, e.g. /a/, /d/ and /g/ - all start by going around to the left, whereas $/ \mathrm{b} /$ and $/ \mathrm{p} /$ go down and up and then only around to the right.
/a/ for apple - around to the left, up and down


/a/ for apple

/c/ for cat - up and around to the left

$\bigcirc$
/o/ for otter - up and around to the left

/o/ for otter


/p/ for pig - down and up, then around to the right


/p/ for pig

/b/ for bat - down, up and around to the right

/b/ for bat


/h/ for hat - down, up, around to the right and stop


- /h/for hat


/n/ for nut - down, up, around to the right and stop

/n/ for nut


/m/ for monkey - down, over and over


/m/ for monkey

/r/ for rat - down and over to the right



## $\bigcirc$

/r/ for rat


/d/ for dog - around to the left, up and down


/d/for dog


/g/ for goat - around to the left, up, all the way down and curl

/g/ for goat


/q/ for queen - around to the left, up and all the way down, skew to the right

/q/ for queen

le/ for egg - left to right, up and around to the left

le/ for egg

/i/ for igloo - down with a dot at the top

$\bigcirc$
/i/ for igloo


/i/ for jellyfish - down, around to the left with a dot on top


li/ for jellyfish


II/ for lion - start at the top and go down


II/ for lion



your pencil, skew, lift your pencil, skew up, lift



/u/ for umbrella - down around to the right, up and down


/u/ for umbrella


/y/ for yo-yo - down around to the right, up, down and around to the left



8
8
8
8
8
8
8
8
$\qquad$
/w/ for watch - skew down, skew up, skew down and skew up



/w/ for watch


/s/ for sun - around the left bend and then around the right bend



$$
\begin{aligned}
& 8_{S S} S_{S} S_{S} S_{S} S_{S} \\
& 0_{0} S_{S} \\
& 0_{S} S_{S} \\
& 0_{S} \\
& 0 S_{S} \\
& 8
\end{aligned}
$$

If/ for fish - around to the left, all the way down, lift pencil and draw a small line


/f/ for fish


It/ for tiger - down and round to the right, lift pencil, draw small line from left to right


/t/ for tiger


/x/ for xylophone - skew down to right, lift pencil, skew down to left


/x/ for xylophone


Iz/ for zebra - draw line from left to right, skew down to left, line from left to right




