

Y1 Handwriting Letter Families

KS1 Y1 English · Follows the national curriculum

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1. Worked example

Get ready to write

Step 1 · Feet flat on the floor, bottom at the back of the chair

Sit up tall

Step 2 · Hold the pencil between your thumb and first finger, resting on your middle finger

A 'tripod' grip, like a three-legged stool

Step 3 · Use your other hand to hold the paper still

Ready!

Answer: Sit tall, tripod grip, other hand holds the paper.

Check: Pinch the pencil near the painted end, not right at the tip.

2. Now try one with the steps

Write the letter 'a' (curly caterpillar)

Step 1 · Start where you would start a c, near the top

Step 2 · Go up to where you started

Step 3 · Come straight down and flick

Answer:

3. Practice

Have a go at each one. There is space underneath to work it out.

1. Which family is the letter 'c' in?

2. Which family is the letter 'l' in?

3. Which family is the letter 'r' in?

4. Which family is the letter 'z' in?

5. Where do you start most letters: at the top or the bottom?

6. Name three letters in the curly caterpillar family.

7. Name two letters that hang below the line.

8. Write the capital letter for each: b, d, e

9. How many fingers hold the pencil in a tripod grip?

10. Write the numbers 0 to 9 in order.

11. Which letter is the odd one out: n, m, h, o?

12. Which two letters are easy to mix up because they face opposite ways: b and d, or a and e?

13. Write your first name, with a capital letter at the start and small letters after.

4. Before you hand it in

Starting round letters like o and a at the bottom.

Curly caterpillar letters start near the top and go back round to the left.

Mixing up b and d.

b is a robot letter: down first, then the tummy. d is a caterpillar letter: c first, then up and down.

Using capital letters in the middle of words, like 'heLLo'.

Write small (lower-case) letters inside words.

Gripping the pencil in a fist.

Use the tripod grip: pinch with thumb and finger, rest on the middle finger.