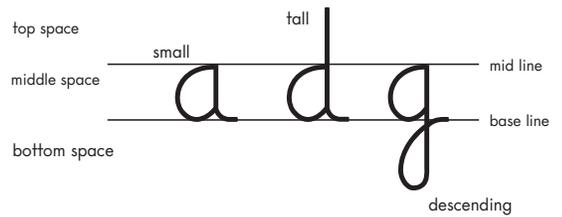


BLACKBOARD WITH DOUBLE LINES: CURSIVE

This works best one-on one or in small groups. We emphasize placing letters correctly because it is essential for neat and fast cursive. We teach on double lines because it is the easiest way to impart a sense for how letters should be placed. These Wet-Dry-Try activities on double lines are a great way to teach letter size and place. The image to the right gives you the basics of how we discuss letter size and placement. Wet-Dry-Try activities appeal to all learning styles and are a fun way to practice letters.

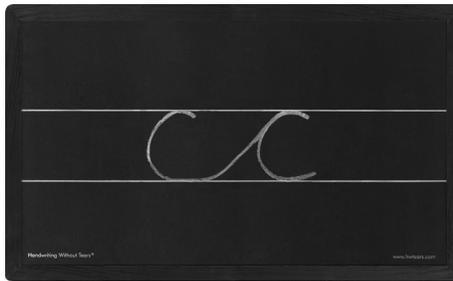


Wet-Dry-Try

Preparation

1. Prepare Blackboards with the letter you will be teaching.
2. Place Little Chalk Bits and Little Sponge Cubes around the room so children can reach them easily.

Directions



Teacher's Part

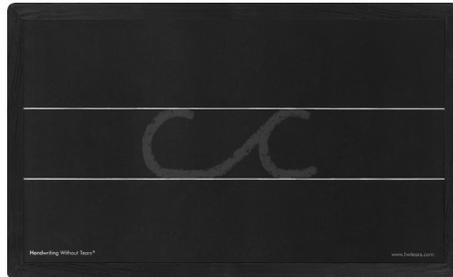
Demonstrate correct letter formation.

Student's Part



WET

- Wet a Little Sponge Cube.
- Squeeze it out.
- Trace the letter with the sponge.
- Wet your finger and trace again.



DRY

- Crumple a little paper towel.
- Dry the letter a few times.
- Gently blow for final drying.



TRY

- Take a Little Chalk Bit.
- Use it to write the letter.

Tips

- Use consistent words to describe the strokes. Match your verbal cues to the directions on the letter lesson pages of the workbook.
- Use Little Sponge Cubes and Little Chalk Bits to help children develop proper pencil grip.
- Squeeze the sponge well or the letter will be too wet.
- When using this activity with the whole class, pre-mark students' chalkboards with the lowercase letter (so they have a correct model to wet), and then demonstrate once for everyone.

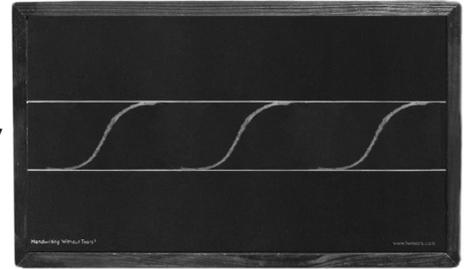
Other Blackboard Activities

In addition to doing the Wet-Dry-Try activity with a single lowercase letter, you can help children with bumping the lines, placing letters in words, placing capitals on lines, writing names, and more. Below are some easy, fun exercises to get started.

Under Over

Help children stay in the lines with this simple exercise.

1. Do the activity just as you would do Wet-Dry-Try with a letter.
2. Draw an under-to-over curve on the board that starts at the baseline, goes up and travels on the mid line.



Try straight diagonal lines (for the start of cursive **s**) and Magic C strokes on the double lines, too.

Names and Capitalized Words

Demonstrate/Imitate: Title Case (Two Boards)

1. Demonstrate the child's name on one board as the child imitates on the other.

This activity helps children learn to write their names on double lines before transitioning to paper. Practice writing capital letters and their lowercase partners on the blackboard when you teach the lowercase letter page.



Word Skills

You can help children learn proper letter spacing and letter placement.

1. Point children to the top, middle, and bottom spaces on the board.
2. You can help with word placement by preparing the board with words specific to each space. For example, the word **cows** teaches the middle space. The word **tall** teaches the top space. The word **jog** teaches the bottom space.
3. Challenge your students by thinking of words with letters that occupy all three spaces. The word **dog** is an example.

