Welcome to 1st Grade!

We are looking forward to teaching your child next school year! Along with the lazy, unstructured days of summer break, we encourage your child to review kindergarten reading, writing and math skills. We have compiled a list of tasks below with resources.

- Ways to practice addition and subtraction math facts/skills include: flashcards, dice, deck of cards, dominoes or free computer apps/programs, such as Math Fact Cafe, Hooda Math, Fun Brain, Khan Academy Kids (ages 2-8), Prodigy, etc.
- Read 3-5 times a week for 10-15 minutes at a time. Students and parents should take turns reading aloud.
- Practice proper letter formation on ice cream paper (download provided). Use the attached “Superkids Letter Formation Guide” to practice each capital and lowercase letter a minimum of once a week. More practice is better!
- Read and use ice cream paper to practice writing the attached “Dolch Words Taught in the Superkids Program” from the kindergarten list. We have also provided the 1st grade list to look ahead for the upcoming school year.

August 16th is the first day of school. Mark your calendar now for "1st through 4th grade Lower School Parent Night” on Tuesday, August 22nd at 6pm.

Enjoy your summer!

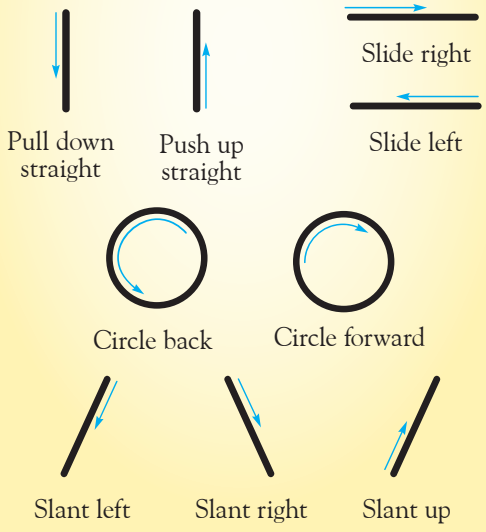
Ms. Ray & Mrs. Wallwork

SUPERKIDS® LETTER FORMATION GUIDE

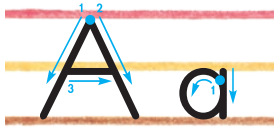
Ice Cream Lines in Skills Books and on Ice Cream Paper provide a fun way to help children distinguish between top, middle, and bottom during handwriting instruction and practice. The top line is the strawberry line, the middle is the vanilla line, and the bottom is the chocolate line.

Handwriting Basic Strokes

All manuscript letters are composed of combinations of four basic lines, or strokes—vertical, horizontal, circle, and diagonal. Familiarize yourself with the stroke names and descriptions so you can provide children with clear, consistent language when teaching them to write the letters of the alphabet.

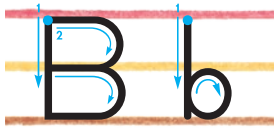


Uppercase and Lowercase Letters



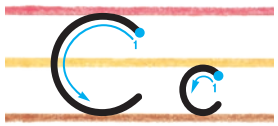
Uppercase *A*—Touch the strawberry line; **slant left** to the chocolate line. **Lift**. Touch the strawberry line; **slant right** to the chocolate line. **Lift**. Touch the vanilla line; **slide right**.

Lowercase *a*—Touch below the vanilla line; **circle back** all the way around. **Push up straight** to the vanilla line. **Pull down straight** to the chocolate line.



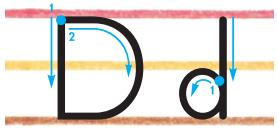
Uppercase *B*—Touch the strawberry line; **pull down straight** to the chocolate line. **Lift**. Touch the strawberry line; **slide right; curve forward** to the vanilla line; **slide left. Slide right; curve forward** to the chocolate line. **Slide left**.

Lowercase *b*—Touch the strawberry line; **pull down straight** to the chocolate line. **Push up; circle forward** all the way around.



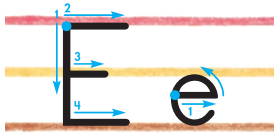
Uppercase C—Touch below the strawberry line; **circle back,** ending above the chocolate line.

Lowercase *c*—Touch below the vanilla line; **circle back,** ending above the chocolate line.



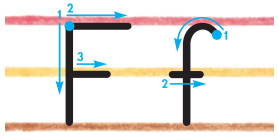
Uppercase *D*—Touch the strawberry line; **pull down straight** to the chocolate line. **Lift**. Touch the strawberry line; **slide right; curve forward** to the chocolate line; **slide left**.

Lowercase *d*—Touch below the vanilla line; **circle back** all the way around. **Push up straight** to the strawberry line. **Pull down straight** to the chocolate line.



Uppercase *E*—Touch the strawberry line; **pull down straight** to the chocolate line. **Lift**. Touch the strawberry line; **slide right. Lift**. Touch the vanilla line; **slide right**. Stop short. **Lift**. Touch the chocolate line; **slide right**.

Lowercase *e*—Touch halfway between the vanilla line and chocolate line; **slide right; circle back,** ending above the chocolate line.

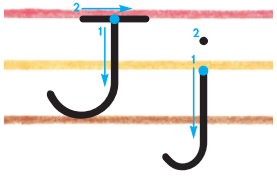


Uppercase *F*—Touch the strawberry line; **pull down straight** to the chocolate line. **Lift**. Touch the strawberry line; **slide right. Lift**. Touch the vanilla line; **slide right**. Stop short.

Lowercase *f*—Touch below the strawberry line; **curve back; pull down straight** to the chocolate line. **Lift**. Touch the vanilla line; **slide right**.

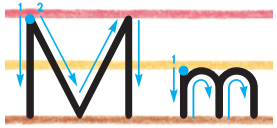
Uppercase *G*—Touch below the strawberry line; **circle back,** ending at the vanilla line. **Slide left**.

Lowercase *g*—Touch below the vanilla line; **circle back** all the way around. **Push up straight** to the vanilla line. **Pull down straight** past the chocolate line; **curve back**.



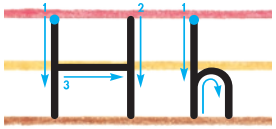
Uppercase *J*—Touch the strawberry line; **pull down straight; curve back. Lift**. Touch the strawberry line; **slide right**.

Lowercase *j*—Touch the vanilla line; **pull down straight** past the chocolate line; **curve back. Lift. Dot**.



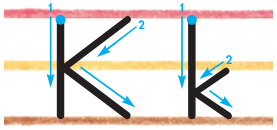
Uppercase *M*—Touch the strawberry line; **pull down straight** to the chocolate line. **Lift**. Touch the strawberry line; **slant right** to the chocolate line. **Slant up** to the strawberry line. **Pull down straight** to the chocolate line.

Lowercase *m*—Touch the vanilla line; **pull down straight** to the chocolate line. **Push up; curve forward; pull down straight** to the chocolate line. **Push up; curve forward; pull down straight** to the chocolate line.



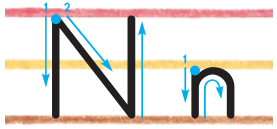
Uppercase *H*—Touch the strawberry line; **pull down straight** to the chocolate line. **Lift**. Move to the right and touch the strawberry line; **pull down straight** to the chocolate line. **Lift**. Move to the left and touch the vanilla line; **slide right**.

Lowercase *h*—Touch the strawberry line; **pull down straight** to the chocolate line. **Push up; curve forward; pull down straight** to the chocolate line.



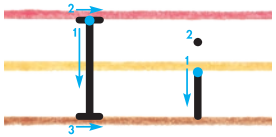
Uppercase *K*—Touch the strawberry line; **pull down straight** to the chocolate line. **Lift**. Move to the right and touch the strawberry line; **slant left** to the vanilla line. **Slant right** to the chocolate line.

Lowercase *k*—Touch the strawberry line; **pull down straight** to the chocolate line. **Lift**. Move to the right and touch the vanilla line; **slant left. Slant right** to the chocolate line.



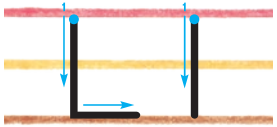
Uppercase *N*—Touch the strawberry line; **pull down straight** to the chocolate line. **Lift**. Touch the strawberry line; **slant right** to the chocolate line. **Push up straight** to the strawberry line.

Lowercase *n*—Touch the vanilla line; **pull down straight** to the chocolate line. **Push up; curve forward; pull down straight** to the chocolate line.



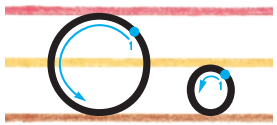
Uppercase *I*—Touch the strawberry line; **pull down straight** to the chocolate line. **Lift**. Touch the strawberry line; **slide right. Lift**. Touch the chocolate line; **slide right**.

Lowercase *i*—Touch the vanilla line; **pull down straight** to the chocolate line. **Lift. Dot**.



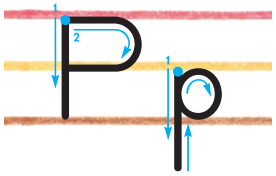
Uppercase *L*—Touch the strawberry line; **pull down straight** to the chocolate line. **Slide right**.

Lowercase *l*—Touch the strawberry line; **pull down straight** to the chocolate line.



Uppercase *O*—Touch below the strawberry line; **circle back** all the way around.

Lowercase *o*—Touch below the vanilla line; **circle back** all the way around.

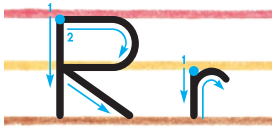


Uppercase *P*—Touch the strawberry line; **pull down straight** to the chocolate line. **Lift**. Touch the strawberry line; **slide right; curve forward** to the vanilla line; **slide left**.

Lowercase *p*—Touch the vanilla line; **pull down straight** past the chocolate line. **Push up; circle forward** all the way around.

Uppercase *Q*—Touch below the strawberry line; **circle back** all the way around. **Lift. Slant right** to the chocolate line.

Lowercase *q*—Touch below the vanilla line; **circle back** all the way around. **Push up straight** to the vanilla line. **Pull down straight** through the chocolate line; curve forward.

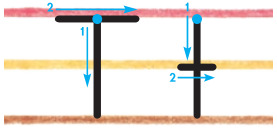


Uppercase *R*—Touch the strawberry line; **pull down straight** to the chocolate line. **Lift**. Touch the strawberry line; **slide right; curve forward** to the vanilla line; **slide left. Slant right** to the chocolate line.

Lowercase *r*—Touch the vanilla line; **pull down straight** to the chocolate line. **Push up; curve forward**.

Uppercase *S*—Touch below the strawberry line; **curve back; curve forward,** ending above the chocolate line.

Lowercase *s*—Touch below the vanilla line; **curve back; curve forward,** ending above the chocolate line.

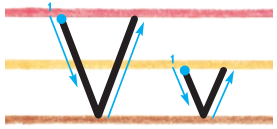


Uppercase *T*—Touch the strawberry line; **pull down straight** to the chocolate line. **Lift**. Touch the strawberry line; **slide right**.

Lowercase *t*—Touch the strawberry line; **pull down straight** to the chocolate line. **Lift**. Touch the vanilla line; **slide right**.

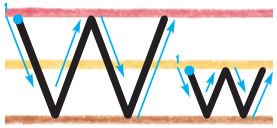
Uppercase *U*—Touch the strawberry line; **pull down straight; curve forward; push up** to the strawberry line.

Lowercase *u*—Touch the vanilla line; **pull down straight; curve forward; push up** to the vanilla line. **Pull down straight** to the chocolate line.



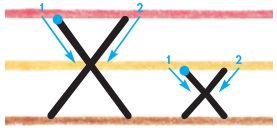
Uppercase *V*—Touch the strawberry line; **slant right** to the chocolate line. **Slant up** to the strawberry line.

Lowercase *v*—Touch the vanilla line; **slant right** to the chocolate line. **Slant up** to the vanilla line.



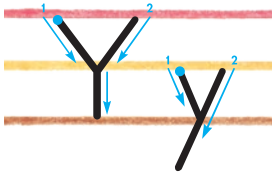
Uppercase *W*—Touch the strawberry line; **slant right** to the chocolate line. **Slant up** to the strawberry line. **Slant right** to the chocolate line. **Slant up** to the strawberry line.

Lowercase *w*—Touch the vanilla line; **slant right** to the chocolate line. **Slant up** to the vanilla line. **Slant right** to the chocolate line. **Slant up** to the vanilla line.



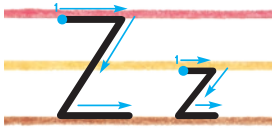
Uppercase *X*—Touch the strawberry line; **slant right** to the chocolate line. **Lift**. Move to the right and touch the strawberry line; **slant left** to the chocolate line.

Lowercase *x*—Touch the vanilla line; **slant right** to the chocolate line. **Lift**. Move to the right and touch the vanilla line; **slant left** to the chocolate line.



Uppercase Y—Touch the strawberry line; **slant right** to the vanilla line. **Lift**. Move to the right and touch the strawberry line; **slant left** to the vanilla line. **Pull down straight** to the chocolate line.

Lowercase y—Touch the vanilla line; **slant right** to the chocolate line. **Lift**. Move to the right and touch the vanilla line; **slant left** past the chocolate line.

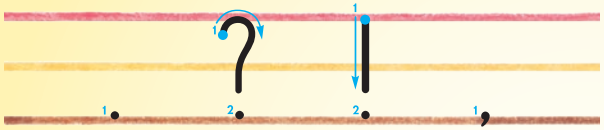


Uppercase Z—Touch the strawberry line; **slide right. Slant left** to the chocolate line. **Slide right**.

Lowercase z—Touch the vanilla line; **slide right. Slant left** to the chocolate line. **Slide right**.

Punctuation Marks

You can use the following descriptions to support children who might benefit from explicit instruction in forming punctuation marks.

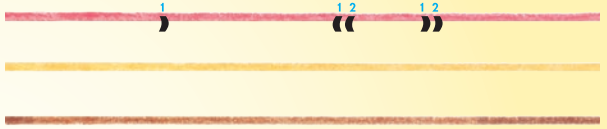


Period—Dot on the chocolate line.

Question Mark—Touch below the strawberry line; **curve forward** to the vanilla line; **pull down straight,** ending above the chocolate line. **Lift**. Dot on the chocolate line.

Exclamation Mark—Touch the strawberry line; **pull down straight,** ending above the chocolate line. **Lift. Dot** on the chocolate line.

Comma—Dot on the chocolate line; **curve forward**.



Apostrophe—Dot on the strawberry line; **curve forward**.

Quotation Marks

Opening—Dot on the strawberry line; **curve back. Lift**. Dot on the strawberry line; **curve back**.

Closing—Dot on the strawberry line; **curve forward. Lift. Dot** on the strawberry line; **curve forward**.

Zaner-Bloser

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Dolch Words Taught in Superkids

In Superkids, children should be able to read 66 Dolch words by the end of kindergarten. They should be able to read and spell all 220 Dolch words by the end of first grade. Some Dolch words, such as *the*, *said*, and *of*, are phonetically irregular. These words are taught as Memory Words that children must memorize how to read and spell. Other Dolch words, such as *fast*, *tell*, and *cut*, are phonetically regular, and children can decode and encode these words once they learn the letter-sounds the words contain. This list identifies when each Dolch word is taught in the Superkids instruction.

Kindergarten

Unit 8
is
did
a

Unit 9
at
got
it
its
sit

Unit 10
fast
if
off
I

Unit 11
get
let
tell

Unit 12
had
has
his
hot
the

Unit 13
cut
full
us

Unit 14
best
big
but
of

Unit 15
red

Unit 16
an
and
can
in
not
on
ran
run
ten
no

Unit 17
am
him
must
for

Unit 18
help
pull
stop
up
upon
put

Unit 19
seven

Unit 20
into
well
went
will
to

Unit 21
ask
black
drink
pick
like

Unit 22
jump
just
said

Unit 23
six
yes
you

Unit 24
was

Memory Words are listed in red.

First Grade

Unit 1
much
myself
shall
wish
I*
my
she
her
he
his

Unit 2
thank
that
them
then
think
this
with
where
what
why
when
which
who

Unit 3
bring
little
long
sing
do
have
show
how
me
a*

Unit 4
after
better
never
together
under
look
your
the*
was*
are
for*

Unit 5
there
from
be
to*
we
or

Unit 6
go
going
so
ate
came
five
gave
made
make
ride
take
these
those
use
white
said*
only
you*
out
of*
here

Unit 7
any
good
very
want

Unit 8
blue
clean
eat
goes
green
keep
read
see
sleep
three
would
could
some
one
new
were

Unit 9
don't
two
about
over
before
four

Unit 10
away
by
carry
every
fly
funny
may
play
pretty
say
today
try
down
too
work
many
first

Unit 11
open
their
now
always
because
been

Unit 12
all
call
draw
fall
saw
small
come
they
our
put*

Unit 13
far
hurt
start
cold
know
does
laugh
both
again

Unit 14
kind
buy
find
right
wash
light

Unit 15
around
brown
found
grow
own
round
yellow
warm
walk
give
once
done

Unit 16
soon
please
live /lĭv/
eight
old
hold
write

Memory Words are listed in red.

* *These Memory Words from kindergarten are retaught and tested as spelling words in first grade.*

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