

Making handwriting
automatic

...so all the attention of
the brain can be on the
content.

Handwriting



- Difficult for many children because they may not have developed the necessary physical skills and hand eye co-ordination to be able to learn to write easily.
- KL builds strength through activities and working positions at the same time as developing brains through multisensory learning
- Therefore, handwriting skills become automatic so the brain can focus on being creative.

National Curriculum...EYFS and KS1

EYFS	Year 1	Year 2
• Begins to use anticlockwise movement and retrace vertical lines. • Uses a pencil and holds it effectively to form recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed.	• sit correctly at a table, holding a pencil comfortably and correctly • begin to form lower-case letters in the correct direction, starting and finishing in the right place • form capital letters • form digits 0-9	• form lower-case letters of the correct size relative to one another • write capital letters and digits of the correct size, orientation and relationship to one another and to lower case letters • use spacing between words that reflects the size of the letters. • start using some of the diagonal and horizontal strokes needed to join letters and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left unjoined

National Curriculum...KS2

Year 3 and 4

- use the diagonal and horizontal strokes that are needed to join letters and understand which letters, when adjacent to one another, are best left unjoined
- increase the legibility, consistency and quality of their handwriting [for example, by ensuring that the downstrokes of letters are parallel and equidistant; that lines of writing are spaced sufficiently so that the ascenders and descenders of letters do not touch].

Year 5 and 6

- write legibly, fluently and with increasing speed by:
- choosing which shape of a letter to use when given choices and deciding whether or not to join specific letters
- choosing the writing implement that is best suited for a task.

Four Strands of Kinetic Letters...

Making bodies stronger	Learning the letters	Holding the pencil	Flow and fluency
✓ Physical strengthening of the body ✓ Motor and spatial preparation	✓ Dynamic movements for learning letter shapes ✓ Sensory experiences for memory and recall	✓ Optimal pencil hold for speed and legibility ✓ Diagnostic photos for addressing issues	✓ Speed and stamina developed ✓ Economy of movement and use of rhythm for speed ✓ Joining letters in a 12 week programme



Making bodies
stronger helps
writing and
concentration

High level of
sensory feedback



Efficient automatic
letter formation



Understanding the
why and how of
ergonomic pencil grip



Learning Letters
as movements



Red Strand...Making Bodies Stronger

"They're always wriggling around, they just can't sit still."

"You'd think sitting on a chair without falling off it couldn't be that difficult!..."

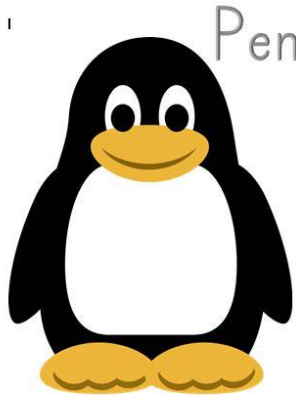
These concerns can be caused by a lack of physical strength because...

Children can't sit still enough to concentrate on learning if they have not developed Shoulder and Pelvic Girdle strength...

Children can't hold a pencil effectively or comfortably for very long, unless they have developed physical strength



Red Strand...Making Bodies Stronger



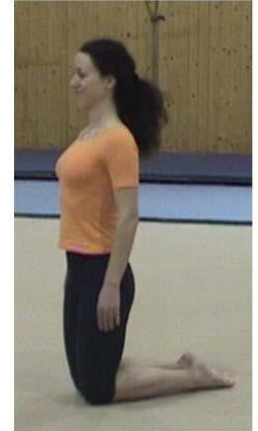
Penguin



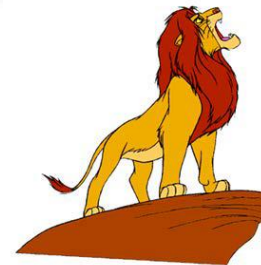
Gorilla



Meerkat



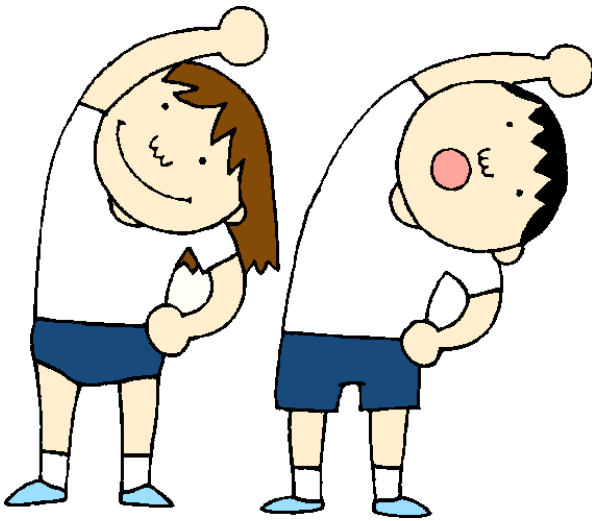
Lizard



Lion



Red Strand...Making Bodies Stronger



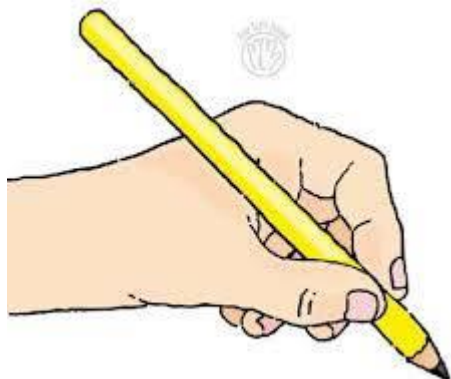
Encourage children to lie in the lizard position to read, use technology, when colouring etc.

Strengthen fingers using dough, tweezers

At the park encourage use of monkey bars etc. to build strength

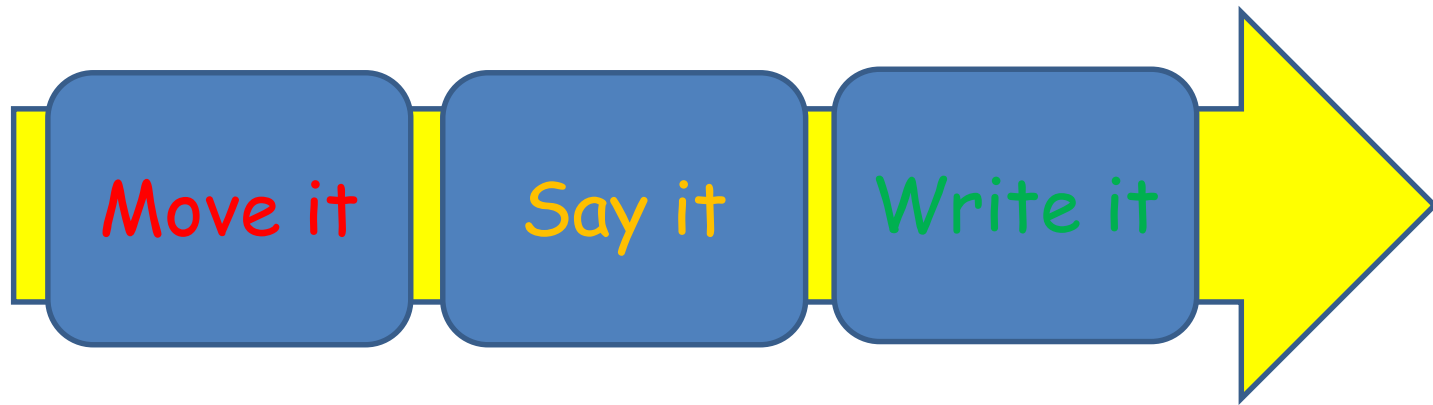
Green Strand...Holding the Pencil

- Point the pencil at my tummy.
- Pick it up with my holding fingers.
- Tip it back and lay it across my hand and pop my pillow finger underneath.



Encourage
children to
use the
correct pencil
grip at home

Yellow Strand...Learning the Letters



- Movement of the whole body, arm or hand underpin all stages of the letter shapes.
- Letter Family Stories provide explanations for letter formation.
- Physical strength is developed, letter shapes are learnt as movements without a writing tool and learning is kinaesthetic.

Yellow Strand...Letter Trails



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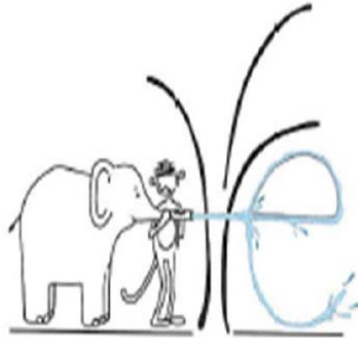
Yellow Strand...Letter Families

Window cleaner family



i u l t

Special squirter



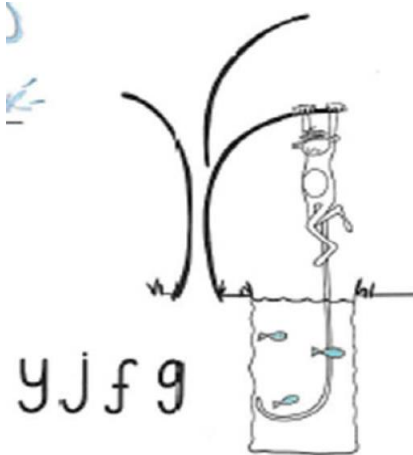
e

Abracadabra family



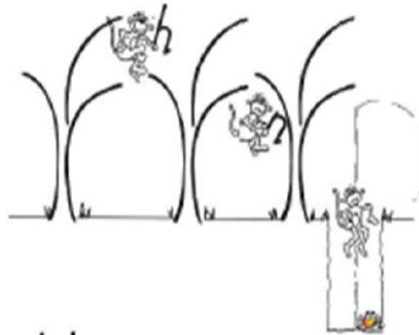
c o a d s q g

Fisher family



y j f g

Jumper family



h b r n m p



v w x z k

Slider family

Yellow Strand...Letter Trails

Step 1



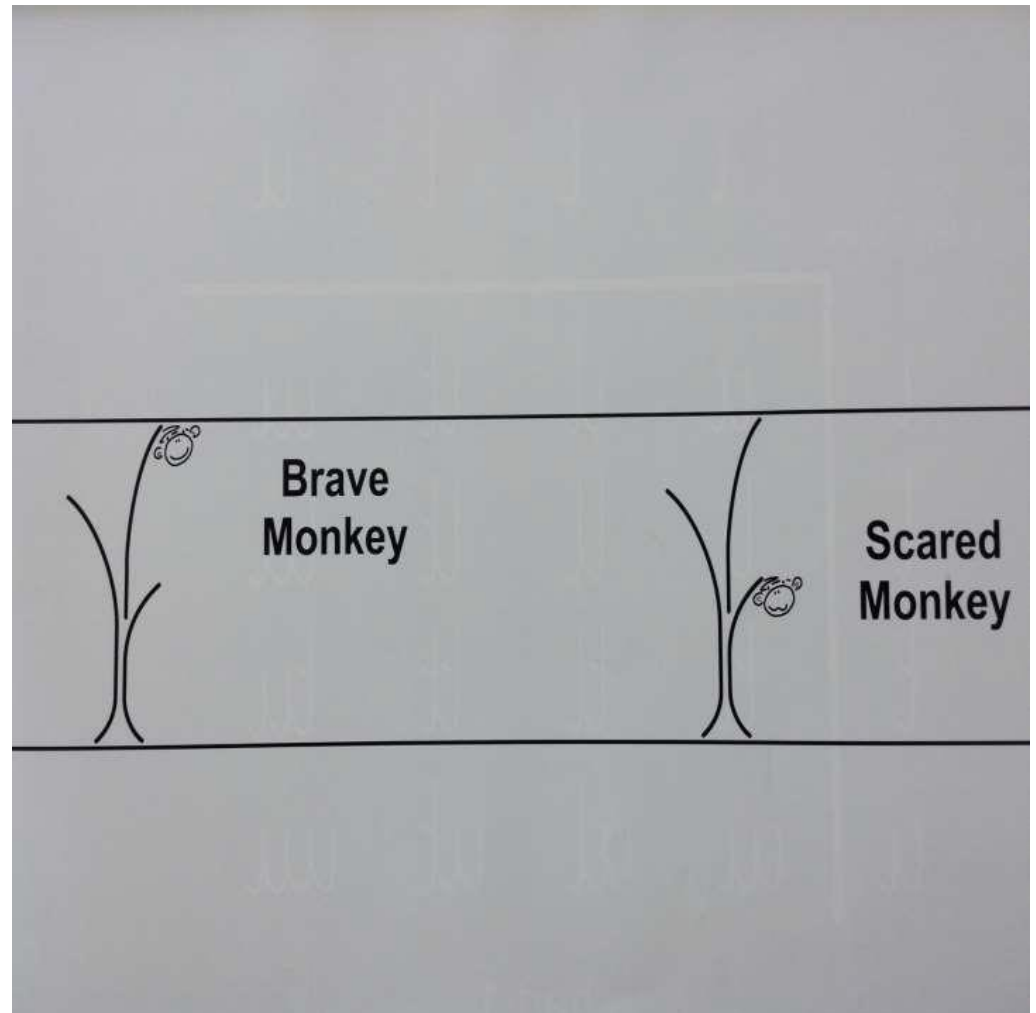
Step 2



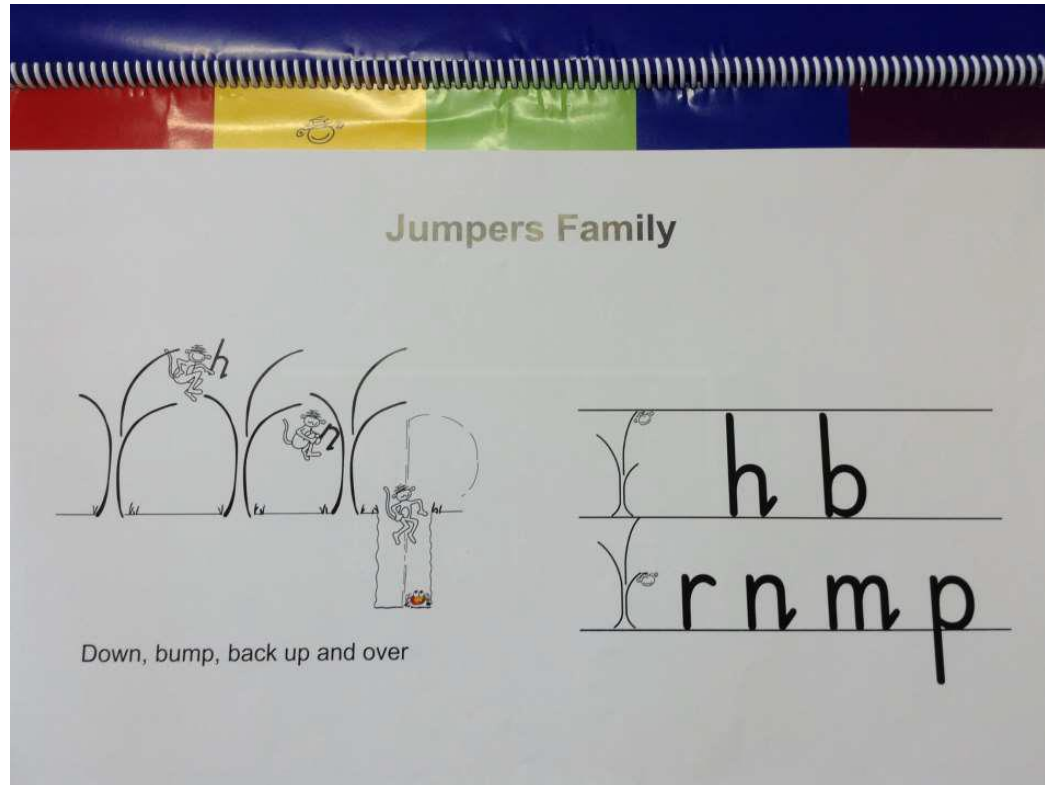
Step 3



Yellow Strand...Letter Sizes



Blue Strand... Flow and Fluency



- Speed and stamina developed

- Joining letters in a 12 week programme

Rapid Progress

Rapid Progress with Kinetic Letters

Year 2 start
(supported content)

On Monday I ate
a bun and it
was scrummy
On Tuesday I ate a ^{big} dig
^{green} gm ^{pig} pig
On ~~was~~ wednesday I ate
a ^{raw} rat egg.

Same child
4 months later
(independent content)

A long time ago there was a littel
girl cold abis she runs sner out
of the house to go to the pond.
She had to crep on the stoors
as ^{quietly} cwiok as she can ^{would} and
then she went to the pond
on hre ^{way} there she had to



Rapid Progress

Start of Year 2
(supported content)

I enjoyed aiming the
bowen arrow at
the target because
I have never
aimed a bowen
arrow before!!

Same child
4 months later
(independent content)

A long time ago, there was a brave warrior
called Tamaririki, and there were no stars in the
sky. It looked just like a black veil. One morning
Tamaririki checked his storage, but there
was no food. Tamaririki decided to go on
his waka, to catch some fish. It wasn't long



How can you help?

- Encourage children to lie in the lizard position to read, use technology, when colouring etc.
- Practise the correct pencil hold with your child
- Strengthen fingers using dough, tweezers
- At the park encourage use of monkey bars etc. to build strength

