

 Easy. Effective. Affordable.

Introducing a truly unique yet amazingly simple handwriting curriculum that bridges writing to reading for Preschool through 5th Grade

Why Handwriting Curriculum Is Important.



Handwriting: Still an essential element of the "3 Rs"

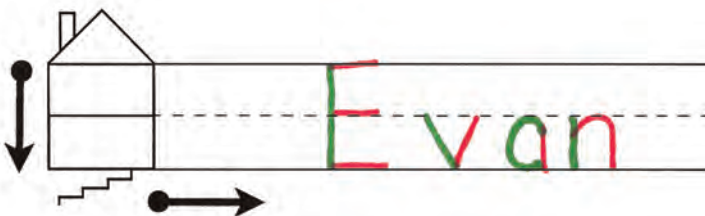
Reading, wRiting and aRithmetic

It is believed that Sir William Curtis (1) coined the phrase "Reading, wRiting and aRithmetic" as the 3 Rs during a toast in 1825. And yet as recently as the past two decades, handwriting as a skill has seen a decreasing level of focus and instruction:

- The increasing role of technology has encouraged a common misperception that handwriting is no longer an important skill to learn at any age.
- Many schools don't even offer a formal handwriting curriculum.

In spite of this, the academic research is clear: Handwriting instruction is a critical component of a child's early development, and students who struggle with speed and legibility of their handwriting face numerous challenges as they progress through the education system. In addition, handwriting proficiency has been directly linked to children's ability to succeed in reading and mathematics. Given the importance and impact on early childhood education, handwriting curriculum is once again becoming a core component of the Language Arts portfolio.

(1) Timbs, J. The Mirror of Literature Amusement and Instruction Vol. 5 J. Limbard, 1825

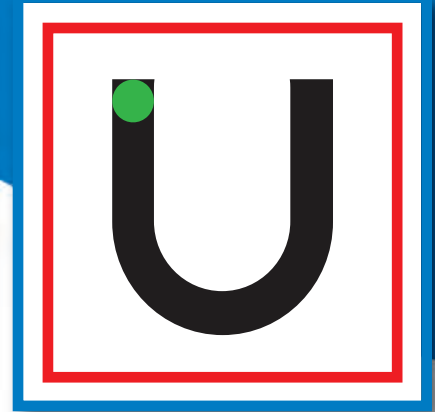


Handwriting: a critical skill for learning to read

"One often-overlooked tool for improving students' reading, as well as their learning from text, is writing. Writing has the theoretical potential for enhancing reading in 3 ways. First, reading and writing are both functional activities that can be combined to accomplish specific goals. Second, reading and writing are connected, as they draw upon common knowledge and cognitive processes. Third, reading and writing are both communication activities, and writers should gain insight about reading by creating their own texts, leading to better comprehension of texts produced by others."

— Graham, S., and Hebert, M. A. (2010). Writing to read: Evidence for how writing can improve reading. A Carnegie Corporation Time to Act Report. Washington, DC: Alliance for Excellent Education.





Introducing ez Write™: Easy. Effective. Affordable.

Developed by an Early Childhood Special Education teacher and an Occupational Therapist, ez Write™ is a proven, research-based curriculum receiving rave reviews from teachers and outstanding feedback from parents. Successful as both a standard handwriting curriculum and response to intervention, ez Write™ has now been adopted by dozens of schools and is being used as the standard handwriting program for thousands of students.

What makes ez Write™ so unique?

Direct consultations with teachers, school administrators and parents led to the development of the **ez Write™ Handwriting Program**. This creative system eliminates the procedural, administrative and intuitive stumbling blocks associated with other more traditional handwriting curriculums, like complex instructions, time-consuming lessons, multiple components that require storage and costly order requirements.

Instead, the ez Write™ Handwriting Program is based on three core principles:

Easy

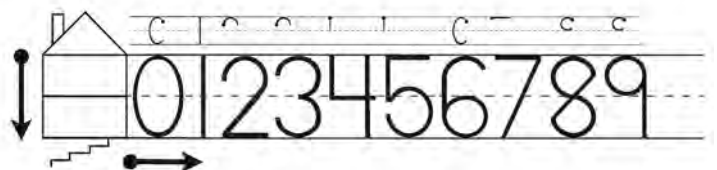
- 8 Beginning Strokes, all with easy-to-remember names, make learning easy and fun.
- Daily worksheet prompts make it easy for teachers to learn and teach the program.
- Classroom kits make ordering easy.

Effective

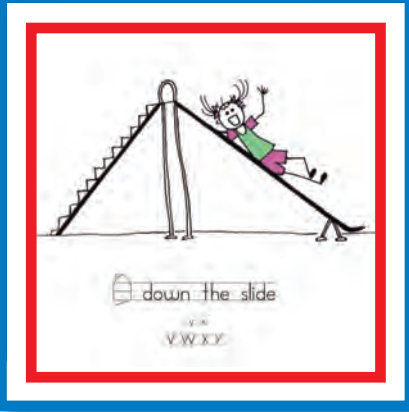
- Students in pilot program studies experienced dramatic improvements in LPM (Letters Per Minute) and legibility.
- Feedback from parents, teachers and numerous schools who have adopted ez Write™ has been overwhelmingly and glowingly positive.
- Students in intervention studies achieved significant improvements in reading and computational fluency, as well as length and quality of text composition.

Affordable

- Cost to schools is significantly lower than other handwriting curriculums on the market. The kindergarten program costs less than \$15 per student to implement, and less than \$0.70 per student every year in reorder components.
- No costly workbooks to reorder each year: Worksheet Masters come with each grade level kit and are on the Teacher Resource CD for use with Smart Boards and projectors.



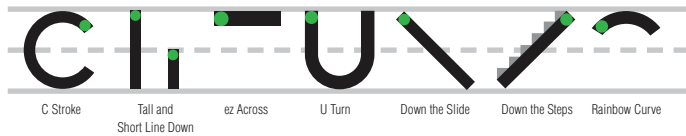
The Basics Of ez Write™.



The basics of ez Write™

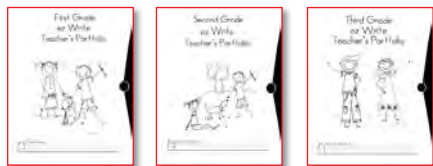
- The program was developed for Preschool through 5th Grade.
- Includes curriculum in both manuscript and cursive (beginning in 3rd Grade).
- Kits with all necessary materials are available by grade level, and in Special Education/ELL, Occupational Therapist and Home Kits for parents.

8 Beginning Strokes: The foundation of the curriculum is learning 8 Beginning Strokes to "muscle memory."



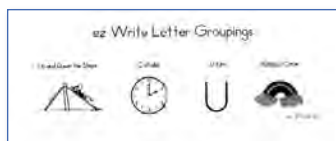
Automaticity:

Automaticity is the ability of students to retrieve and produce letters automatically. The ez Write™ program uses the "Alphabet Race" in 1st through 5th Grade to help increase Letters per Minute by writing the alphabet as quickly as possible. **When letter production is automatic, memory space is freed up for higher level composing skills and students can get their thoughts on paper quicker and often in more creative ways.**



Letters taught in groupings:

Instead of alphabetical order, **letters are taught in groupings by the Beginning Stroke used to create them.** This helps the student code the letters to memory, which is a prerequisite to learning to read. The students whisper the letter sound as they write the letters to reinforce the process.

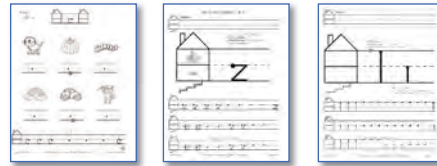


Language arts connection:

High frequency words are used throughout the program to produce a strong connection to reading.

Skills application worksheets:

Program worksheets use differentiated learning to accommodate various student abilities and to encourage creative writing.



Common language and materials:

When used across grade levels and schools, common language and materials are especially helpful for ELL and special needs students.



Kindergarten

1st Grade

2nd Grade

Multi-sensory and multi-disciplinary with strong home/school connection:

All four channels into the brain: seeing, saying, hearing and writing are used in the lessons to make ez Write™ effective.

Activities can take place in art, music and physical education to reinforce the strokes and create continuity throughout the school. ez Write™ also has a strong home/school connection built into the program.



Custom fonts:

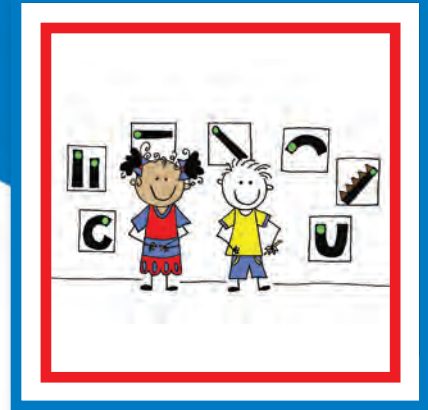
The ez Write™ program was written using an outline font specifically designed to make handwriting easy, fun and legible. There are 8 different fonts for teacher and classroom use, available on the Teacher Resource CD.

Training DVD, intervention guide, and grade level intervention worksheets:

Classroom teachers and volunteers are trained using the ez Write™ Training DVD, Handwriting Helper Guide, and Handwriting Helper Worksheets to do quick interventions to help students correct handwriting errors.



What Makes ez Write™ So Imperative?



What makes a handwriting curriculum so imperative?

"If young children have to devote large amounts of working memory to the control of lower-level processes such as handwriting, they may have little working memory capacity left for the higher-level processes such as generation of ideas, vocabulary selection, monitoring of the progress of mental plans and revising text against these plans."

—Medwell, J. and Wray, D. Handwriting: what do we know and what do we need to know?, *Literacy* Vol. 41, Number 1, April 2007

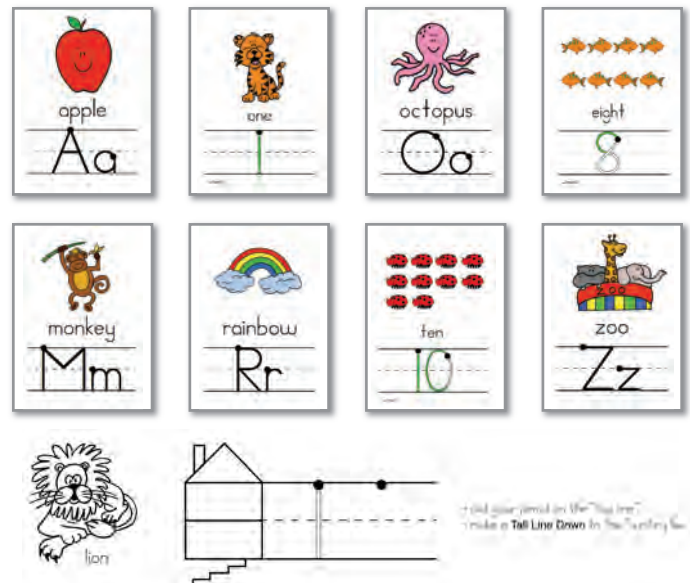
"Handwriting, and in particular the automaticity of letter production, appears to facilitate high-order composing processes by freeing up working memory to deal with the complex tasks of planning, organizing, revising and regulating the production of text. **Research suggests that automatic letter writing is the single best predictor of length and quality of written composition in the primary years.**"

—Feder, K. and Majnemer, A. (2007), Handwriting development, competency and intervention. *Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology*, Apr; 49(4): pp. 312-317



Kits are available for Preschool through 5th Grade

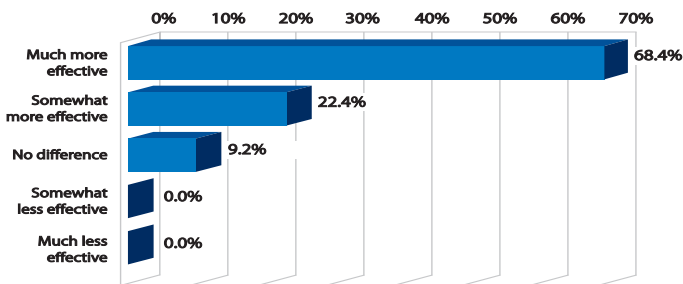
- Item #KP Preschool Kit
- Item #KK Kindergarten Kit
- Item #K1 1st Grade Kit
- Item #K2 2nd Grade Kit
- Item #K3 3rd Grade Kit
- Item #K4 4th Grade Kit
- Item #K5 5th Grade Kit
- Item #KSE Special Education/ELL Kit
- Item #KOT Occupational Therapy Kit
- Item #KH Start Right with ez Write™ Home Kit



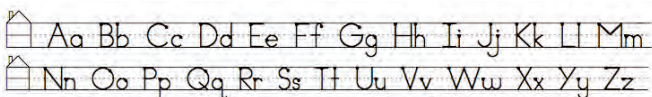
The Results Are Proven.



91% of parents rated ez Write™ as more effective or much more effective than other handwriting curriculum



"I was concerned for my daughter when it came to learning to write. She was so different from her sisters – she had no interest in writing at all and would only get frustrated when I would try to help her. I had no way to communicate how to exactly start a letter with a curve – now we can say 'start with the C stroke.' And 'Down the Slide' is much easier to understand than diagonal. Now, we can't keep enough paper in the house for her, she is writing all the time. Thank you so much for this program."



"I love that you can tell the kids a stroke and a picture instantly forms in their head." "I love that there are so few strokes for the whole alphabet. I think it really helps the kids concentrate on what stroke they are doing, even if they can't picture the letter in their head."



Summary of results* from a 10-week handwriting intervention program using ez Write™ Handwriting Curriculum:

Students received 3 explicit handwriting lessons per week for 10 weeks - for 30 total lessons. Pretest and post-test measurements were gathered to evaluate the effectiveness of the ez Write™ Handwriting Program, with results noted as follows:



SPEED AND AUTOMATICITY

After 10 weeks of ez Write™, students showed a 44% improvement in time required to write the entire alphabet.

TEXT GENERATION - LENGTH OF COMPOSITION

After 10 weeks of ez Write™, students wrote longer compositions, spent more time creating their compositions and expressed/wrote their thoughts much faster than prior to the program.

ORAL READING FLUENCY

After 10 weeks of ez Write™, improvements in handwriting also translated into a 19% improvement in reading ability.

COMPUTATIONAL FLUENCY

After 10 weeks of ez Write™, improvements in writing also translated into mathematical/computational ability.

Visit www.ezwriteonline.com for full effectiveness research and results.

* Results derived from a Masters thesis written by Heidi Anderson, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in Literacy Education from Bethel University, August 2010.

What Do Parents Say About The ez Write™ Handwriting Program?



Parents say it's easy to learn

"This writing program makes perfect sense. It is so much easier for children to recognize letters as they are learning to read. Also as a parent we can better explain how a letter begins rather than showing."

"It was great to see how quickly my daughter's handwriting improved over the past 8 months!"

"My son has learned how to write his letters more accurately and quicker using the ez Write™ program. I think it is wonderful!"



Parents say it helps with specific challenges

"Our child had a problem with reversing her letters and numbers. Since she has started this program, she rarely reverses letters or numbers anymore. Her handwriting is much neater and more controlled looking. Handwriting has always been hard for her, she seems to have more confidence in herself now."

Parents say it works!

"This system works because you can talk about the process of writing rather than trying to show how. My daughter has had an easier time with handwriting because of this program. It works!"

"This has been a wonderful program for my daughter. The language and parent information makes it very easy to work with at home. My daughter's handwriting is very nice. It's a fabulous program!"

"I hear Emma singing the catchy tunes. She would write words right-to-left (being a lefty I think)...and the songs would help her."

"The names for each stroke helped in describing the process for writing each letter. Consistent, common language for handwriting."

"From the beginning of the year to now my son has made tremendous improvement!"



91% of parents believed ez Write™ was a more effective handwriting program than other handwriting curriculum their children have received.

It's Time to ez Write™



Find out how ez Write™ can positively impact your students and improve their reading, writing and mathematics skills!

Call toll-free 888-699-0684 or email info@ezwriteonline.com

Visit www.ezwriteonline.com to see a complete overview of the program, results from pilot studies, effectiveness research and more feedback from parents.

888-699-0684 (toll-free)
763-463-9314 (fax)

Students are encouraged to trace big posters, draw in sand, paint and trace the strokes with a variety of writing utensils.



The 8 Beginning Strokes Book can be used at home and school to reinforce what children are learning.



www.ezwriteonline.com

www.facebook.com/ezwrite www.twitter.com/ezwrite www.youtube.com/ezwrite