

Forming Letter Families

Twinkl Handwriting | Year 1 | Steps to Progression Overview

The aim of this overview is to show the most logical sequence for teaching each area of handwriting when using Twinkl Handwriting. However, Twinkl Handwriting is designed to be a pick 'n' mix style scheme. If you feel that your students need to concentrate on a specific letter family or a particular skill, you could tailor the programme to fit the requirements of your learners.

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	Week 11	Week 12
Autumn	The Ladder Family (l, i, u, t, y and j)						Assess and Review		The One-Armed Robot Family (n, m and h)			Themed Handwriting Practice
Spring	The One-Armed Robot Family (k, b, p and r)				Assess and Review		The Curly Caterpillar Family (c, a, d, e, s and g)					
Summer	The Curly Caterpillar Family (f, q and o)		Assess and Review			The Zigzag Monster Family (z, v, w and x)			Assess and Review		Themed Handwriting Practice	

Year 1 Assessment Statements

By the end of these lessons, most children should be able to:

- 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;
- understand which letters belong to which handwriting 'families' (letters that are formed in similar ways) and to practise these.

Forming Letter Families

Twinkl Handwriting's Forming Letter Families packs have been created to teach year 1 children the sets of letter 'families' in a progressive teaching sequence. Within each PowerPoint presentation, all lower case letters are shown using a printed style (without lead-ins or lead-outs) with the aim of securing the correct basic letter formation of the entire alphabet before adjusting handwriting to a preferred style.

If you wish to adopt a cursive or continuous cursive style from year 1, a cursive (Twinkl unlooped) and continuous cursive (Twinkl looped) alternative version of all PDF worksheets is available within each download. The PowerPoint presentation is also fully editable if you would like to use the cursive or continuous cursive animated letter formation GIFs from later in the teaching sequence.

Resources

Within the following progression overview, you will find links to the cursive or continuous cursive lesson packs needed for each session. If you would prefer for your learners to have a handwriting booklet to work through, [click here](#). Letter formation and pencil control could also be practised by linking your handwriting sessions with phonics using our range of [Twinkl Handwriting phonics booklets](#).

Autumn Term Lesson Progression

Week	Content	Description	Useful Links
1	The Ladder Family: Lesson 1 The Letter 'l'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce the letter name and the sound of the letter. 	Cursive Continuous Cursive
2	The Ladder Family: Lesson 2 The Letter 'i'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Show the animation of how to form the lower case letter. 	Cursive Continuous Cursive
3	The Ladder Family: Lesson 3 The Letter 'u'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Model and then ask children to complete the relevant Activity Sheet. 	Cursive Continuous Cursive
4	The Ladder Family: Lesson 4 The Letter 't'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide further challenge with the relevant Extra Practice Activity Sheet. 	Cursive Continuous Cursive
5	The Ladder Family: Lesson 5 The Letter 'y'		Cursive Continuous Cursive
6	The Ladder Family: Lesson 6 The Letter 'j'		Cursive Continuous Cursive
7	The Ladder Family: Assess and Review Lesson 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask children to identify the letters within The Ladder Family. Check that children can correctly trace each letter. Ask children to independently form three letters from The Ladder Family on normal lines. 	Twinkl Handwriting: The Ladder Family: Year 1 Assess and Review Resource Pack
8	The Ladder Family: Assess and Review Lesson 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask children to independently form all letters from The Ladder Family on handwriting lines. Ask children to copy a range of real and nonsense words onto handwriting lines. 	

9	The One-Armed Robot Family Lesson 1: The Letter 'n'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce the letter name and the sound of the letter. 	Cursive Continuous Cursive
10	The One-Armed Robot Family Lesson 2: The Letter 'm'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show the animation of how to form the lower case letter. 	Cursive Continuous Cursive
11	The One-Armed Robot Family Lesson 3: The Letter 'h'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Model and then ask children to complete the relevant Activity Sheet. • Provide further challenge with the relevant Extra Practice Activity Sheet. 	Cursive Continuous Cursive
12	Themed Handwriting Practice	Encourage children to practise their skills and to form lower case letters correctly by using one of our seasonal or themed Pencil Control & Letter Formation Activity Booklets.	Winter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twinkl font • Cursive • Continuous Cursive Christmas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twinkl font • Cursive • Continuous Cursive

Spring Term Lesson Progression

Week	Content	Description	Useful Links
1	The One-Armed Robot Family Lesson 4: The Letter 'k'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce the letter name and the sound of the letter. 	Cursive Continuous Cursive
2	The One-Armed Robot Family Lesson 5: The Letter 'b'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Show the animation of how to form the lower case letter. 	Cursive Continuous Cursive
3	The One-Armed Robot Family Lesson 6: The Letter 'p'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Model and then ask children to complete the relevant Activity Sheet. 	Cursive Continuous Cursive
4	The One-Armed Robot Family Lesson 7: The Letter 'r'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide further challenge with the relevant Extra Practice Activity Sheet. 	Cursive Continuous Cursive
5	The One-Armed Robot Family: Assess and Review Lesson 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask children to identify the letters within The One-Armed Robot Family. Check that children can correctly trace each letter. Ask children to independently form three letters from The One-Armed Robot Family on normal lines. 	Twinkl Handwriting: The One-Armed Robot Family: Year 1 Assess and Review Resource Pack
6	The One-Armed Robot Family: Assess and Review Lesson 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask children to independently form all letters from The One-Armed Robot Family on handwriting lines. Ask children to copy a range of real and nonsense words onto handwriting lines. 	

7	The Curly Caterpillar Family Lesson 1: The Letter 'c'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce the letter name and the sound of the letter. • Show the animation of how to form the lower case letter. • Model and then ask children to complete the relevant Activity Sheet. • Provide further challenge with the relevant Extra Practice Activity Sheet. 	Cursive Continuous Cursive
8	The Curly Caterpillar Family Lesson 2: The Letter 'a'		Cursive Continuous Cursive
9	The Curly Caterpillar Family Lesson 3: The Letter 'd'		Cursive Continuous Cursive
10	The Curly Caterpillar Family Lesson 4: The Letter 'e'		Cursive Continuous Cursive
11	The Curly Caterpillar Family Lesson 5: The Letter 's'		Cursive Continuous Cursive
12	The Curly Caterpillar Family Lesson 6: The Letter 'g'		Cursive Continuous Cursive

Summer Term Lesson Progression

Week	Content	Description	Useful Links
1	The Curly Caterpillar Family Lesson 7: The Letter 'f'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce the letter name and the sound of the letter. 	Cursive Continuous Cursive
2	The Curly Caterpillar Family Lesson 8: The Letter 'q'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Show the animation of how to form the lower case letter. Model and then ask children to complete the relevant Activity Sheet. 	Cursive Continuous Cursive
3	The Curly Caterpillar Family Lesson 9: The Letter 'o'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide further challenge with the relevant Extra Practice Activity Sheet. 	Cursive Continuous Cursive
4	The Curly Caterpillar Family: Assess and Review Lesson 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask children to identify the letters within The Curly Caterpillar Family. Check that children can correctly trace each letter. Ask children to independently form three letters from The Curly Caterpillar Family on normal lines. 	Twinkl Handwriting: The Curly Caterpillar Family: Year 1 Assess and Review Resource Pack
5	The Curly Caterpillar Family: Assess and Review Lesson 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask children to independently form all letters from The Curly Caterpillar Family on handwriting lines. Ask children to copy a range of real and nonsense words onto handwriting lines. 	

6	The Zigzag Monster Family Lesson 1: The Letter 'z'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce the letter name and the sound of the letter. 	Cursive Continuous Cursive
7	The Zigzag Monster Family Lesson 2: The Letter 'v'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show the animation of how to form the lower case letter. 	Cursive Continuous Cursive
8	The Zigzag Monster Family Lesson 3: The Letter 'w'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Model and then ask children to complete the relevant Activity Sheet. 	Cursive Continuous Cursive
9	The Zigzag Monster Family Lesson 4: The Letter 'x'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide further challenge with the relevant Extra Practice Activity Sheet. 	Cursive Continuous Cursive
10	The Zigzag Monster Family: Assess and Review Lesson 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask children to identify the letters within The Zigzag Monster Family. • Check that children can correctly trace each letter. • Ask children to independently form three letters from Zigzag Monster Family on normal lines. 	Twinkl Handwriting: The Zigzag Monster Family: Year 1 Assess and Review Resource Pack
11	The Zigzag Monster Family: Assess and Review Lesson 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask children to independently form all letters from The Zigzag Monster Family on handwriting lines. • Ask children to copy a range of real and nonsense words onto handwriting lines. 	
12	Themed Handwriting Practice	Encourage children to practise their skills and to form lower case letters correctly by using one of our seasonal or themed Pencil Control & Letter Formation Activity Booklets.	Summer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twinkl font • Cursive • Continuous Cursive Growth Mindset/Transition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twinkl font • Cursive • Continuous Cursive