

All Write!

Rigby NSW Foundation Handwriting

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Year Three
Keeping
fit together



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For teachers and parents

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For teachers and parents

While computers and other forms of ICT are important to learning, legible and fluent handwriting continues to underpin effective learning. Pens and pencils are portable, cheap, and bridge the digital divide, providing access to literacy and learning for all regardless of the availability of technology.

Scope and sequence for *All Write!*

All Write! Rigby NSW Foundation Handwriting assists students to learn to write legibly and fluently, with correct pencil grip and comfortable posture, in order to successfully access the curriculum and to meet everyday writing needs.

The series features engaging illustrations incorporating lower case letters and words as part of an innovative, multisensory approach to help students create a memory map linking letter formation with letter–sound relationships. As students gain proficiency with handwriting, practice activities are related to a range of genres or text types, and graphic organisers help to support skills in learning joined writing. A broad, student-centred theme underpins activities at each year level.

All Write! Rigby NSW Foundation Handwriting supports teachers in developing students' knowledge, skills and attitudes related to the following aspects of the NSW Foundation Statements.

Year K

Students know and use letters and sounds of the alphabet to attempt to spell known words, and use most lower and upper case letters appropriately to construct sentences.

Years 1 and 2

Students write using letters of consistent size and slope in NSW Foundation Style.

Years 3 and 4

Students use joined letters when writing in NSW Foundation Style.

Year 3 outcomes

During Year 3, students are learning about the following topics.

1. Writing with fluent movements

- Fluent handwriting movements and patterns
- Correct pencil grip
- Comfortable body positions for writing
- Consolidating correct formation of lower case and upper case letters, and numbers 1 to 10
- Consistency in letter size (heads, bodies and tails), shape and slope
- Correctly forming joined letters within lines

2. Multisensory knowledge related to letters, joining letters and words

- Consolidating links between correct letter formation and knowledge of letter–sound relationships by writing each letter and naming and colouring illustrations that incorporate the letter
- Connecting letter formation with meaningful use of joined letters in thematic words and sentences
- Saying rhymes, playing games, visualising, and feeling the movements used in fluent joined writing

3. Writing

- Conventions, e.g. left to right, and recognition of letters and spaces
- Topic-related words, phrases and sentences
- A range of simple genres and text types
- Punctuation, e.g. capital letters, full stops, commas, apostrophes, question marks and quotation marks

4. Assessment and motivation

- Response to peer and teacher feedback
- Recognising the value of personal effort, practice and self-correction

Teaching strategies

Linking the pen and the mind

Handwriting instruction linked with learning concepts of print and letter, sound and word knowledge provides a strong foundation for a lifetime of literacy. To support this aim, students need to be able to use this knowledge to write known words and to attempt new words when writing varied text types for particular purposes.

Building on the successful approach of *All Write! Year 2*, this workbook uses engaging illustrations incorporating lower case letters to encourage students to consolidate and internalise the look and feel of correct letter formation, essential for joined writing. The illustrations, words and sentences related to the theme, 'Keeping fit together', help students to continue to develop phonemic awareness and the flexible knowledge of letter-sound relationships needed for effective reading and writing.

In preparing students for a productive future, there is an increased emphasis on the teaching of thinking skills. In order to demonstrate thinking ability, they are often required to write, draw, create or interpret graphical representations. Some of these skills are introduced in this workbook program along with correct letter formation and the skills needed for joined handwriting. As students build on these fundamental literacy skills, their ability to create and communicate via multimodal texts will increasingly complement handwriting.

Fluency patterns, letter formation, consistent size and shape

Practice with top-starting fluency patterns and left-to-right movements, based on foundation movements, is central to the maintenance of correct letter formation and consistent shape, size and slope. Continued practice of the movements underpinning letters helps students to internalise—or 'feel'—the shaping required, and assists them to learn to make letter strokes in one movement.

All Write! Year 3 continues to provide handwriting activities that focus on top starting of all letters (except d and e), correct starting and finishing points, and consistency in letter size (heads, bodies and tails), shape and slope. A *modelled, guided and independent* approach helps students to establish correct letter formation and achieve fluency.

In classrooms that teach—and therefore value—fluency and legibility in handwriting, students are likely to develop perseverance, attention to detail and pride as they strive for excellence. These effective learning habits will assist them with self-regulation, goal-setting, self-monitoring, assessment and review of personal progress.

Letter slope

The development of a consistent letter slope is an important aspect of correct letter formation that assists first with fluency and later with writing speed. *All Write! Year 3* provides a photocopiable slope card on the inside back cover of the workbook. A copy can be made for each student to place under workbook pages when writing and for use during other everyday writing tasks. Inconsistent slope can lead to illegibility and later reluctance to use fully joined handwriting.

Introducing joined letters

In Year 3, most students understand the need to produce more writing, are able to understand the rule-governed behaviour involved in successfully joining letters, and are physically able to produce the required movements.

Legible and fluent cursive handwriting is dependent both on correct letter formation, including consistent size and slope, and on use of correct joining movements. These movements relate to:

- diagonal joins
- horizontal joins
- touch joins and fluency joins
- joins to ascenders
- letters that don't join

The simplest and most frequently used join is the diagonal movement. Teaching students to make the diagonal movement and the horizontal movement by writing appropriate English letter groups, words, phrases and sentences will provide a solid foundation for success with joined handwriting.

Pencil grip

The three-finger precision grip is the most effective. The pencil is held gently, and slopes towards the first knuckle. The writing hand is held on its side with the last two fingers tucked in. Show students how to hold the pencil using the tips of the thumb and the index finger, then show them how the nail fold of the middle finger supports the pencil. To help students 'feel' the precision grip, ask them to wiggle or roll the pencil barrel using a gentle precision grip.

Students who do not use the precision grip will need regular and positive encouragement and demonstrations to assist them to change. Explain that incorrect pencil grip can lead to fatigue and legibility problems as they develop a need for increased speed in order to complete greater amounts of writing using joined handwriting.



Left pencil grip



Right pencil grip

Posture

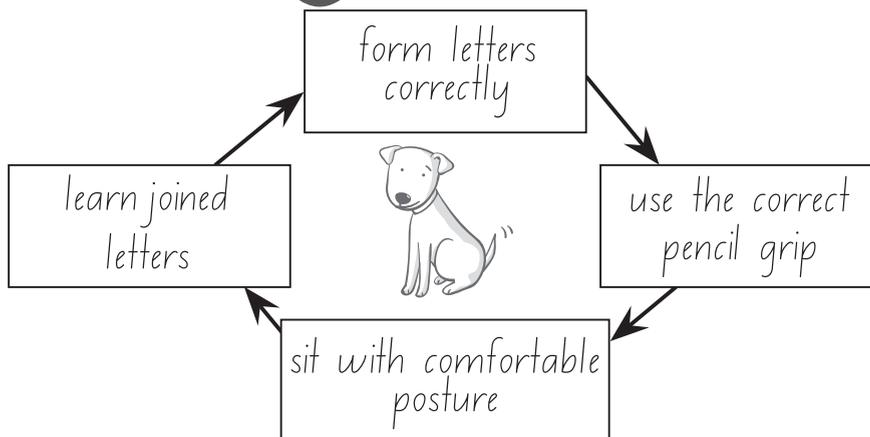
When writing at a desk or a table, students need a comfortable, fairly upright posture with a slightly forward lean. The non-writing hand is used to hold the paper steady. As the time spent writing at desks and tables increases, so too does the need to help students to develop effective work and rest cycles. Encourage them to break up work time appropriately with short periods in which they relax and engage in desk or seat exercises.



Features of the Year 3 book

In Year 3, teachers need to balance the competing demands of learning handwriting—and, in particular, the learning of joined handwriting—with the need for students to use handwriting to learn about different genres or text types. To assist teachers with these goals, the Year 3 book provides

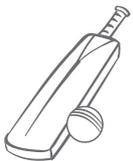
- opportunities to practise the top-starting fluency patterns and left-to-right movements, based on foundation movements
- engaging illustrations incorporating lower case letters to assist students to consolidate the look and feel of correct letter formation
- rhymes and illustrations to help students to internalise or ‘feel’ shaping and movements, to learn to make letter strokes in one fluid movement
- activities that help to introduce key features of simple genres or text types and to demonstrate thinking ability by writing, drawing, creating or interpreting graphical representations



Diagonal joins slope up
Like climbing up a slide.
If you form them well,
Your spacing will be fine.

- opportunities to learn about and practise the joining movements that provide the foundation for legible and fluent joined handwriting.

Draw yourself wearing a medal that shows something you do well.



Complete.

My name is

My birthday is

My favourite sport is

On weekends



Hi! In this book we'll learn about joined writing and keeping fit together.

Trace.



Copy.

We should all try to eat a variety
of healthy foods and drink plenty
of water each day.

Sample pages

Draw foods you can eat sometimes or eat in small amounts.

Trace and complete.

HEALTHY EATING

I can enjoy eating a variety of foods every day. I like to eat

Draw healthy foods you eat in the correct parts of the diagram.

Vegetables, legumes

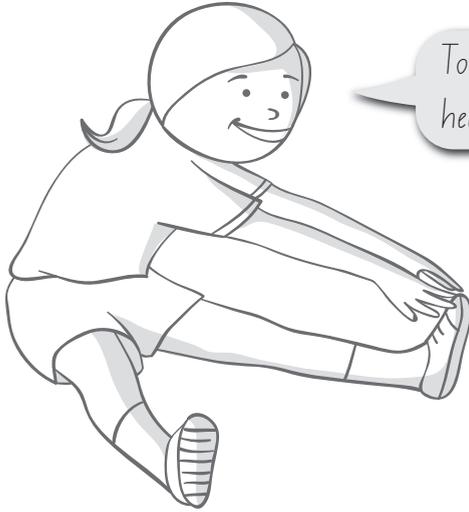
Fruit

Milk, yoghurt, cheese

Lean meat, fish, poultry, eggs, nuts, legumes

Bread, cereals, rice, pasta, noodles

Drink plenty of water



To keep fit and well, you need to drink water, eat healthy foods and get plenty of sleep and exercise.

A wet nose means good health . . . for dogs!



Sit correctly, and use the three-finger grip to trace and copy.

m m m m m m m

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg

Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn

Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu

Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz

Sample pages

Trace.



To keep fit and well, I need to
take part in both passive and
vigorous activities each week.

Trace and tick your daily activities. Add another to the list, then draw your favourite activity.

The activities I do each day to help
keep fit and well:

Read a book

Take a bath or shower

Walk the dog*

Eat fruit and vegetables

Cycle or walk to school*

*with parental permission

Colour.

Laugh out loud

Copy and draw.

What fish do dogs chase? Catfish.

Have you got holes in your

socks? No!

Then how do your feet get in?

Sample pages

Complete.



My "no horizontal joins to e"
leave me feeling . . .



Happy



OK



Disappointed

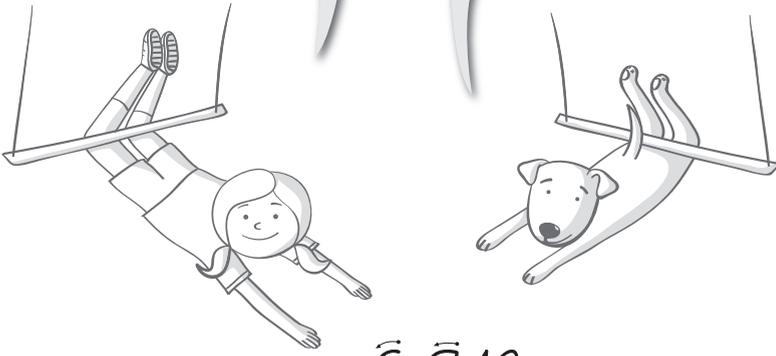
Turn to page 32
to record the word "chase" and
play the fun game.



When joining the anticlockwise, right-starting letters,

ā c̄ d̄ ḡ q̄ ō

make a long diagonal exit, lift the pencil and drop the next letter in.



cān

Say the rhyme.

Reach out to make a touch join,
Then lift your pencil across.
Drop in the next letter,
But make sure it isn't squashed.

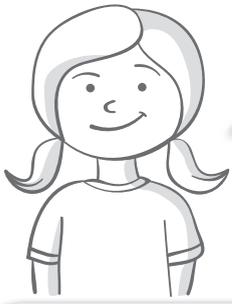
Trace and copy.

di did did di did did

th that that th that that

l laughing laughing la

c can can c can can ca can



Sometimes you can use a retrace movement instead of lifting the pencil.

Trace and copy.

th at or th at

did that laughing can and

Trace the heading, then copy the sentences.

Laughter is the best medicine

Did you know that laughing can

help to keep you fit and well?

Laughter burns energy and can

help build your immune system.

Trace the numbers.



Number fun!

Use the star pattern to help you count by fours.

4, 8, 12, _____, _____, _____, _____, 32

2, 6, 10, _____, _____, 22, _____, 30

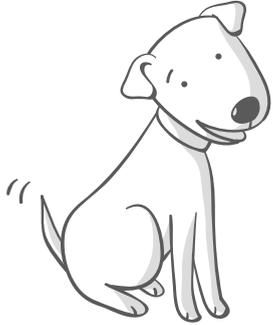
Use the star pattern to help you count by sixes.

2, 8, 14, _____, _____, _____, _____, 44

4, 10, 16, _____, _____, _____, _____, 46

Trace the heading.

Little Sudoku



Write the numbers 1–4 only once in each column, in each row and in each small box.

	3		
			1
		4	
2			

Copy, then complete the Little Sudoku.

I can build my logical thinking skills and have fun at the same time by solving sudoku puzzles.

Colour to rate your effort.

I'm taking steps to improve my joined letters.

Not enough effort!

Trying hard

Improving

Good work

Excellent effort



Trace.

Can you write "onomatopoeia" using correctly joined letters?



onomatopoeia

Lift

Lift

Lift

slurp

glug



Copy and complete.

uuu mm uuu

Onomatopoeia is using words

that sound like the noise or

action they represent; for example,

squishing, sipping, whoosh,

swish, hiss, slurp, _____

Trace the words, then colour the word picture.

Squishing down on
a big, healthy
salad sandwich.



Trace the words, then draw word pictures.

Sipping chilled
water during
exercise.

Sitting down with
a whoosh and a
swish.

Sample pages

Complete.



**My joined letters
leave me feeling . . .**



Happy



OK



Disappointed

Turn to page 32
to record the word "salad"
and play the fun game.

