



## **Kindergarten Handwriting**

Approved by KSD Board of Education: (2023)

### **Course Description:**

In this engaging and hands-on writing course, young learners will develop the foundational skills necessary for written communication. This course fosters early literacy by encouraging creativity, building fine motor skills, and supporting phonemic awareness, setting students up for success as they become confident writers.

**Grade Level:** Kindergarten

### **Skills Scope and Sequence**

**Skill 1:** Pencil Grasp

**Skill 2:** Paper Placement

**Skill 3:** Uppercase letter formation

**Skill 4:** Lowercase letter formation

### **Course Enduring Understandings:**

- Proper grip and posture when holding a writing utensil are essential for developing fine motor skills and ensuring legibility and comfort in writing.
- Proper paper placement helps support a stable writing position, leading to better control and accuracy in forming letters and words.
- Mastering uppercase letter formation is foundational for early literacy, helping students recognize and produce clear, legible writing in a standardized form.
- Writing lowercase letters with accuracy strengthens students' ability to communicate effectively and read fluently, as most written text relies on lowercase letters.
- Understanding the relationship between sounds and their corresponding letters supports phonetic awareness and reinforces the connection between spoken and written language, which is crucial for early literacy development.

### **Course Learning Targets:**

- Students will hold their writing utensil properly.
- Students will place their paper appropriately when writing.
- Students will be able to write their uppercase letters.
- Students will be able to write their lowercase letters.
- Students will write the printed letters that match the sound.

### **Standards:**

- In written text: print in upper- and lowercase letters (K.L.1.B.a).
- In written text: Write and name the printed letters that match the sound (K.L.1.B.f).

## 1st Grade Handwriting

### Course Description:

First graders will build on their foundational writing skills to become confident, clear, and creative writers. Students will practice writing complete thoughts, using correct punctuation, and crafting simple stories and sentences with increasing fluency and speed. This course fosters a love for writing by encouraging self-expression, building writing confidence, and helping students communicate their ideas with clarity and creativity.

**Grade Level:** 1st Grade

### Skills Scope and Sequence

**Skill 1:** Spacing between words

**Skill 2:** Placement of paper

**Skill 3:** Legibility

**Skill 4:** Speed

### Course Enduring Understandings:

- Proper spacing between words is crucial for readability and comprehension, helping students organize their thoughts clearly and communicate their ideas effectively.
- Correct paper placement supports proper posture and control while writing, enabling students to form letters and words more legibly and comfortably.
- Legible writing enhances communication, ensuring that the meaning of words and ideas is clear to others. Clear letter formation fosters both confidence in writing and success in reading.
- Writing fluently and with speed allows students to express their ideas quickly and efficiently, building a strong foundation for effective communication and promoting confidence in their writing abilities.

### Course Learning Targets:

- Students will use correct spacing between words on paper.
- Students will be able to place their paper appropriately when writing.
- Students will be able to write letters and words legibly.
- Students will write words and sentences fluently and with speed.

### Standards:

- In written text: Print legibly, using correct spacing between words and sentences (1.L.1.B.a).

## 2nd Grade Handwriting

### **Course Description:**

Second graders will build on their foundational skills to become confident and skilled writers. Students will review and master correct letter formation in print, while also learning to write lowercase cursive letters, fostering fluency and ease in their handwriting. This course helps students develop their writing skills while building confidence in their ability to communicate effectively on paper.

**Grade Level:** 2nd Grade

### **Skills Scope and Sequence**

**Skill 1:** Review and master print

**Skill 2:** Introduce lowercase cursive letter formation

### **Course Enduring Understandings:**

- Mastering correct letter formation in print is fundamental to developing legible, consistent handwriting, which enhances both written communication and reading fluency.
- Learning to write lowercase cursive letters helps students develop fine motor skills, fosters fluidity in writing, and prepares them for efficient, connected writing as they advance in their literacy journey.

### **Course Learning Targets:**

- Students will review and master correct letter formation for print.
- Students will be able to write lowercase cursive letters.

### **Standards:**

- In written text: write legibly (print, cursive) (2.L.1.B.a).

## 3rd Grade Handwriting

### Course Description:

Third graders will strengthen their handwriting and digital writing abilities. Students will master uppercase cursive letter formation, improving the fluidity and efficiency of their writing. Additionally, they will practice typing letters, numbers, and punctuation using proper keyboarding skills, preparing them for success in the digital age. This course builds confidence in writing, laying the foundation for effective communication across multiple platforms.

**Grade Level:** 3rd Grade

### Skills Scope and Sequence

**Skill 1:** Cursive uppercase letter formation

**Skill 2:** Introduce keyboarding skills

### Course Enduring Understandings:

- Mastery of uppercase cursive writing helps students develop fluid and efficient handwriting, promoting better fine motor coordination and fostering a personal writing style while connecting letterforms for faster, more cohesive writing.
- Developing keyboarding skills early enhances students' ability to write quickly and accurately on digital platforms, supporting both academic success and proficiency in the digital world by fostering effective communication in typing and online writing tasks.

### Course Learning Targets:

- Students will be able to write uppercase cursive letters.
- Students will practice typing letters, numbers, and punctuation with keyboarding skills.

### Standards:

- In written text: write legibly (print, cursive) (3.L.1.B.a).

## 4th Grade Handwriting

### Course Description:

Fourth grade students will build on their skills to become confident, clear, and effective communicators. They will focus on writing complete sentences that express clear ideas and demonstrate proper punctuation, laying the foundation for strong written expression. Students will also enhance their digital literacy by practicing typing letters, numbers, and punctuation with proper keyboarding techniques, preparing them for success in both print and digital writing environments. This course fosters a love for writing while helping students gain essential skills for both academic and personal expression.

**Grade Level:** 4th Grade

### Skills Scope and Sequence

**Skill 1:** Reinforce fluency in handwriting

**Skill 2:** Keyboarding skills

### Course Enduring Understandings:

- Writing complete, well-structured sentences with proper punctuation is essential for clear communication. It helps students convey their ideas effectively, ensuring their writing is both understandable and grammatically correct.
- Developing efficient keyboarding skills is crucial for students to become proficient in digital communication. Mastery of typing letters, numbers, and punctuation enhances students' ability to express ideas quickly and accurately in written form across digital platforms.

### Course Learning Targets:

- Students will write complete sentences that express a clear idea and are properly punctuated.
- Students will be able to type letters, numbers, and punctuation with keyboarding skills.

### Standards:

- In written text: write legibly (4.L.1.B.a).
- Demonstrate sufficient command of keyboarding skills to type a minimum of one page, ideally in a single sitting (4.W.1.D.b).

## 5th Grade Handwriting

### Course Description:

Fifth grade students will build on their skills to become confident, clear, and effective communicators. They will focus on writing complete sentences that express clear ideas and demonstrate proper punctuation, laying the foundation for strong written expression. Students will also enhance their digital literacy by practicing typing letters, numbers, and punctuation with proper keyboarding techniques, preparing them for success in both print and digital writing environments. This course fosters a love for writing while helping students gain essential skills for both academic and personal expression.

**Grade Level:** 5th Grade

### Skills Scope and Sequence

**Skill 1:** Reinforce fluency in handwriting

**Skill 2:** Keyboarding skills

### Course Enduring Understandings:

- Writing complete, well-structured sentences with proper punctuation is essential for clear communication. It helps students convey their ideas effectively, ensuring their writing is both understandable and grammatically correct.
- Developing efficient keyboarding skills is crucial for students to become proficient in digital communication. Mastery of typing letters, numbers, and punctuation enhances students' ability to express ideas quickly and accurately in written form across digital platforms.

### Course Essential Questions:

- Students will write complete sentences that express a clear idea and are properly punctuated.
- Students will be able to type letters, numbers, and punctuation with keyboarding skills.

### Standards:

- In written text: write legibly (5.L.1.B.a).
- Demonstrate sufficient command of keyboarding skills to type a minimum of two pages, ideally in a single sitting (5.W.1.D.b).