

# enmanship?

# "Exploring" Great Handwriting

God tells us to do everything we do in the name of Jesus. That means we do our best at each task he gives us at home or in school. It includes learning how to print and write well.

> Our friends, Julie and Josh, are here to help you learn why handwriting is important and how you can do your best.

Do you like to send special messages to your friends and your family? Do you like to surprise people with stories or poems? If you know how to write well, you can do all of these and make people very happy.

Divers Julie and Josh are ready to help you explore ways to good handwriting this year. You'll travel with them through the alphabet. You'll learn to write words praising God in His Creation and special poems that you can share with those you love, with friends, or even with strangers who need some love and encouragement in their lives.



On the first few pages, you will find some tips for good handwriting: how to sit, how to place your paper on your desk or table, how to hold your pencil, and how to form each letter of the alphabet correctly. These tips are the first stages of your trip to good handwriting. Come back to these pages often until you are sure you know exactly what to do.

This year, you will review your "manuscript" print and then venture into "cursive" writing. Learning cursive is very important for all of your life. Watch how many times people you know use cursive to sign forms or write letters. See if you can find other ways people use cursive.

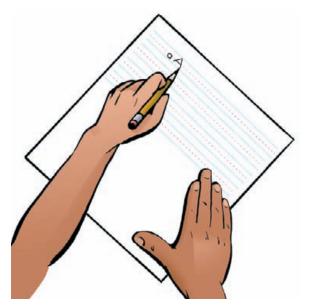
Each day you will have a handwriting lesson. For three days each week, you will practice forming letters and words. On the fourth day, you will practice a poem or a Bible verse. On the fifth day, you will use your best penmanship to copy the poem or verse onto a specially-designed page. You can use these special pages to decorate your room, to give as a gift to someone you love, or to send to someone. You will think of many ways to use these special pages.

Each day of the week, you will be giving God your best efforts in all you do. So get yourself ready to explore the different depths to great handwriting.



**Correct Right-Handed Position** 

Paper is placed on an angle to the left. Left hand steadies the paper and moves it up as you near the bottom of the page. Right hand is free to write.



**Correct Left-Handed Position** 

Paper is placed on an angle to the right. Right hand steadies the paper and moves it up as you near the bottom of the page. Left hand is free to write. Watch hand positions carefully as shown in the picture.



### **Correct Hand and Pencil Position**

Hold the pencil loosely about 1/2" to 1" above the sharpened point. Hold it between your thumb and index (pointer) fingers. Let it rest on your middle finger. Do not grip the pencil tightly or your hand will become very tired. Do not let your hand slip down to the sharp point or you will have difficulty writing properly.



**Correct Posture** 

Sit up tall, leaning slightly forward but not bending over your desk. Have your feet flat on the floor. Both arms will rest on the desk. Hold the paper with your free hand.



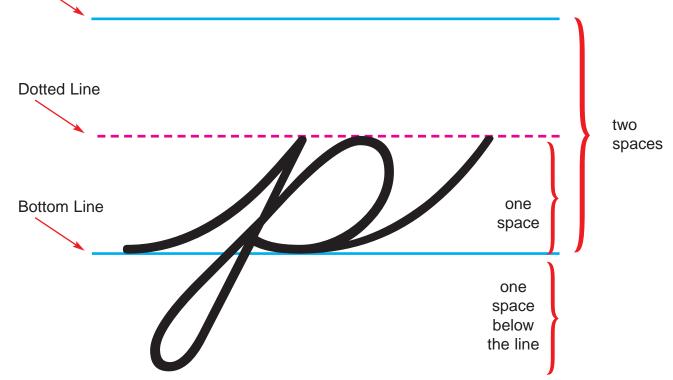


### **Correct Spacing**

When practicing your letters separately and, later, when writing your words, use your index (pointer) finger as a guide. Continue to do this until you can easily see the space you need between words without using your finger.

### **Guide Lines**

The blue top and bottom lines and the dotted red centerline will be your guides for letter formations. Some letters are one space tall, others are two spaces tall. Some letters like a p are two spaces tall but begin in bottom space and drop down one space below the bottom guideline. A few letters are three spaces tall. They use both spaces between the guidelines and drop one space below the line.



Top Line

## Poem and Bible Verse Pages

🗧 Lesson 154 🥌 Name:

the nountain of the Lond's temple will be established as chief among the mountains One very special thing you can do once you have learned to write is to share God's Word with others.

Through out the book you will have your own special poem or Bible verse for each week. After practicing the letters and words needed for three days, you will be able to practice your poem or verse on the fourth day.

You will also have a special page on the fifth day of the week where you will copy the poem or verse, decorate it, and decide how you will share it with someone else.

Talk with your teacher and classmates about how you might share these special pages that praise God for His Creation.

