

Kids  
Handwrite™



# RESOURCE MATERIAL



## UPPERCASE Letter Formation



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## Section 7 - UPPERCASE LETTER FORMATION

### 1. *The Italic Advantage*

The advantage of the Italic script is that the printed and cursive uppercase letters are the same. Also, uppercase letters do not join to the Italic cursive lowercase letters, so there is nothing more to learn when transitioning to cursive writing.

The uppercase Italic letters come from the Roman capitals that are recognizable by most people, even children. Commercially available foam, plastic or magnetic uppercase letters tend to be all the same width and, as such, do not help students recognize the different widths of the Italic uppercase letters.

### 2. *Teaching Sequence*

Uppercase letters can be taught by letter formation or by width.

If taught by letter **formation**, the teaching sequence would be as follows:

Group	Letters	Formation
Group 1	<i><b>E F H I J L T U</b></i>	Vertical and Horizontal Lines
Group 2	<i><b>B C D G O P Q S</b></i>	Circles and Half-Circles
Group 4	<i><b>A K M N R V W X Y Z</b></i>	Diagonal lines

If taught by **width**, the teaching sequence would be as follows:

Group	Letters
Narrowest	<i><b>I J</b></i>
Narrow	<i><b>B E F K L P R S</b></i>
Medium	<i><b>A H N T U V X Y Z</b></i>
Round and Wide	<i><b>C D G Q</b></i>
Wider and Widest	<i><b>M W</b></i>

### 3. *Uppercase Letter Recognition – Playing Cards*

The first step is the ability to recognize and name the uppercase letters. Students can recognize and name letters by picking them from an array of printed, plastic, foam or magnetic letters.

The Resource includes three uppercase “playing cards” pages to help students identify and name the uppercase letters. These pages are intended to be printed and the cards cut-out. The pages can be printed on cardstock or printed on paper and laminated.



These cards can be used with the lowercase playing cards to have students match the lowercase and uppercase letters.

#### 4. Proportional Size of Uppercase Letter

All Italic uppercase letters fit into either a square or a rectangle. All uppercase letters are the same height but have different widths.

Width	Description
Narrowest	The width of the narrowest letters ( <i>I</i> and <i>J</i> ) is <b>one-third</b> their height.
Narrow	The width of the narrow letters ( <i>B E F K L P R S</i> ) is <b>one-half</b> their height.
Medium	The width of the medium letters ( <i>A H N T U V X Y Z</i> ) is <b>two-thirds</b> their height.
Wide and Round	The wide and round letters ( <i>C, D, G, O, Q</i> ) are generally as <b>wide</b> as they are <b>high</b> , with the <i>C</i> and <i>D</i> being slightly narrower than the <i>G, O</i> and <i>Q</i> , which are the full width.
Wider	The bottom of the letter ( <i>M</i> ) is as wide as it is high, but the top of the <i>M</i> is narrower than the bottom.
Widest	The top of the letter ( <i>W</i> ) is slightly wider than its height. The bottom of the <i>W</i> is narrower than the top.

Two pages in the Resource explain and demonstrate the proportions of the uppercase letters, and there are three pages for students to draw the uppercase letters in their shape containers. Two of these pages are below.

UPPERCASE LETTER PROPORTIONS *con't*

**Wide and Round**  
The width of the letters C, D, G, O and Q is almost the same as their height.

The "C" and "D" are about 1 unit narrower than the other round letters.  
The "G", "O" and "Q" fill the width.

**Wider**  
The bottom of the letter M is as wide as it is high. The top is narrower.

**Widest**  
The top of the letter W is slightly wider than it is high. The bottom is narrower.

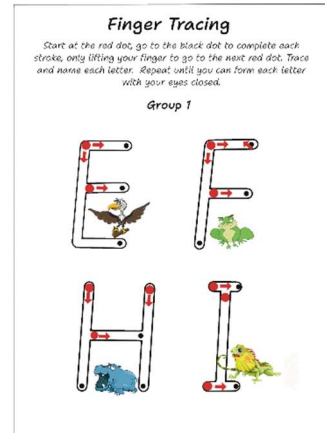
**Narrowest**  
The width of the letters I and J is one-third their height.

UPPERCASE LETTERS  
PROPORTION PRACTICE  
Wide and Round  
Wide and Widest Letters

## 5. **Finger Tracing –Uppercase Letters**

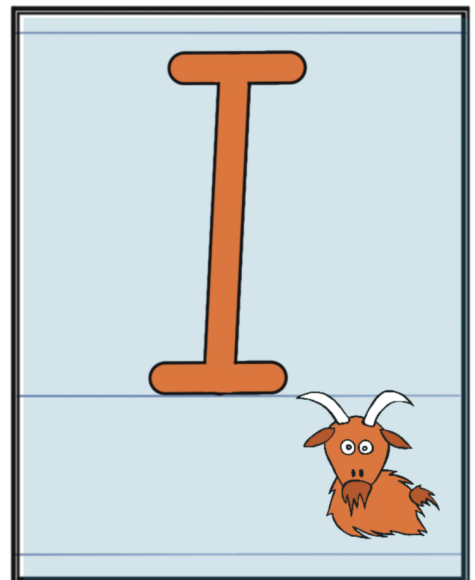
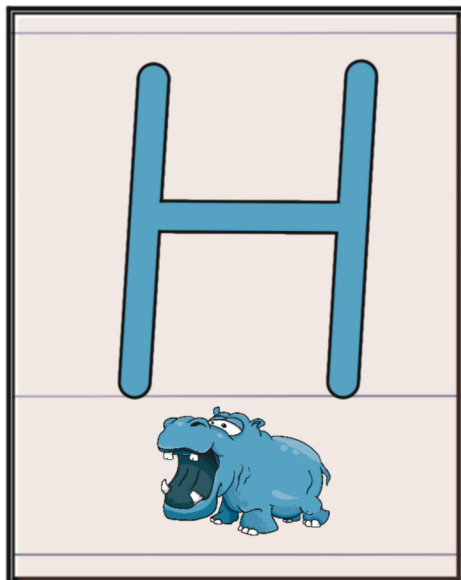
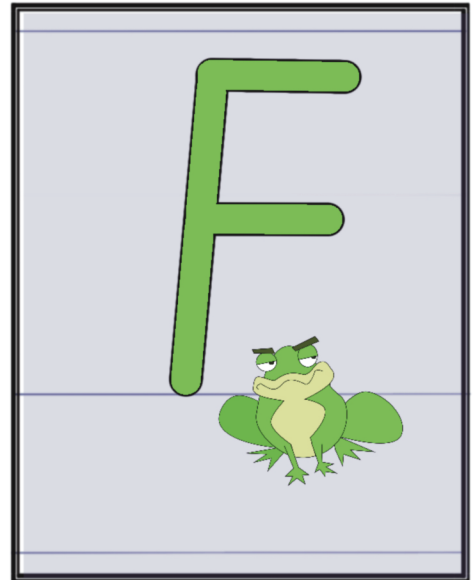
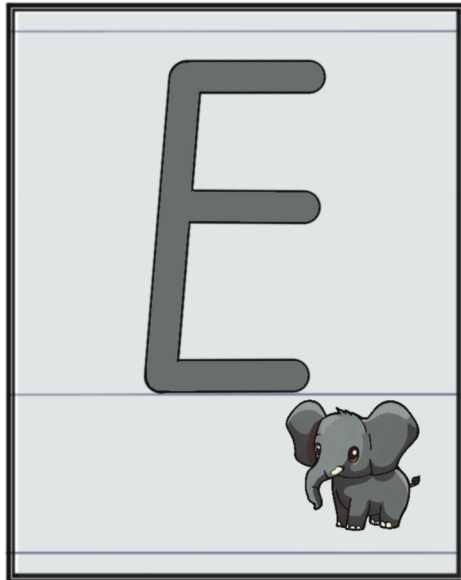
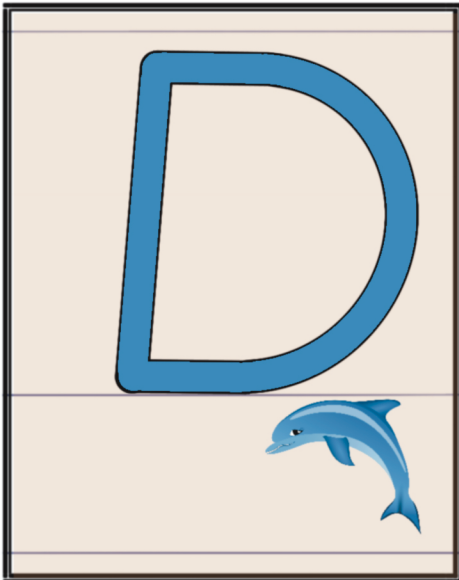
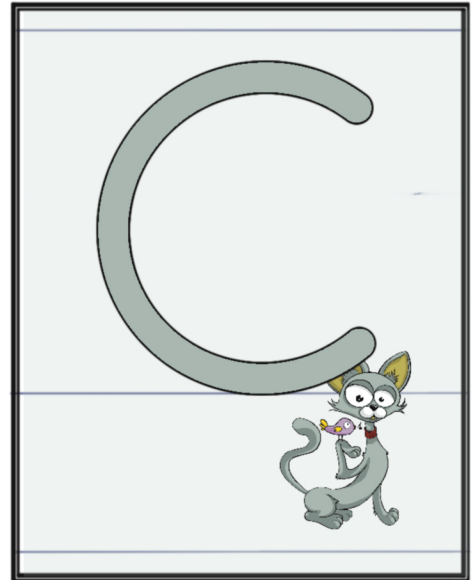
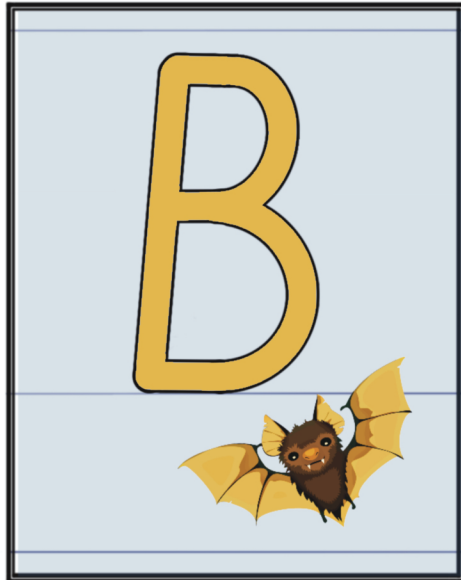
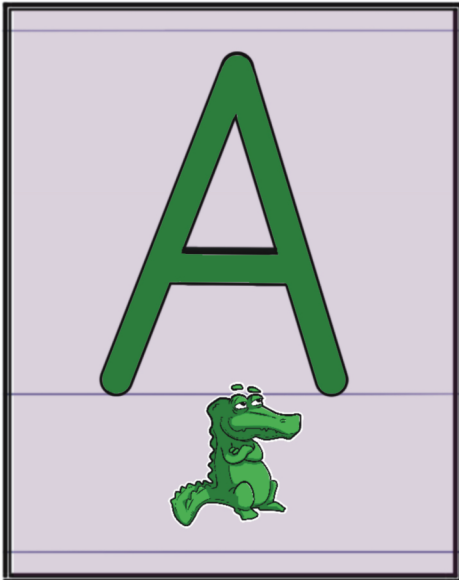
Finger tracing shapes on paper, in the air, or on the table in sand (or other pliable material) is a terrific way to learn uppercase italic letters. Learning is reinforced when the students name each letter aloud while finger tracing. There are two sets of these pages, one by letter formation group and the other in alphabetical order.

The red dots signify the starting point, the red arrows represent the direction when printing the letter, and the black dots indicate the end of the stroke. There is no traceback when printing the uppercase letters.

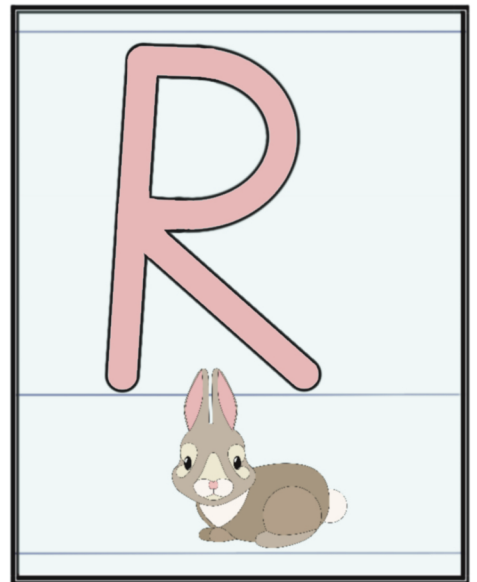
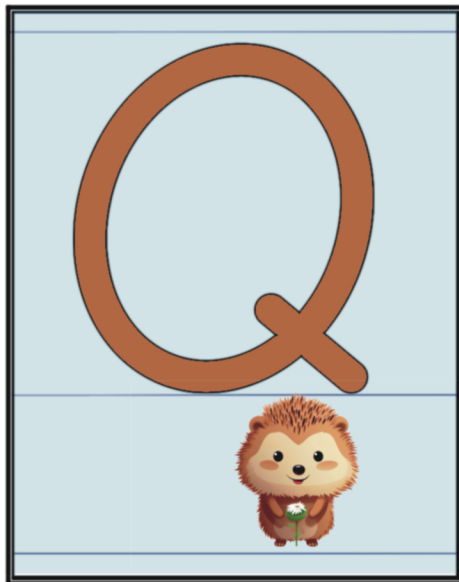
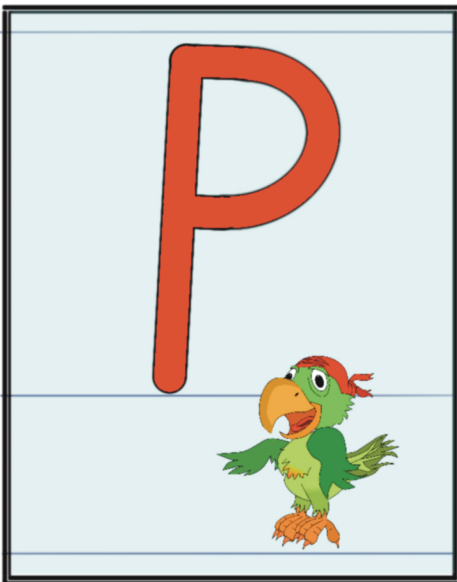
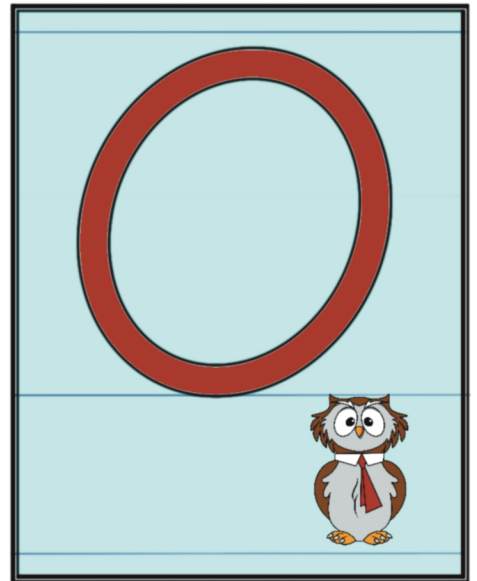
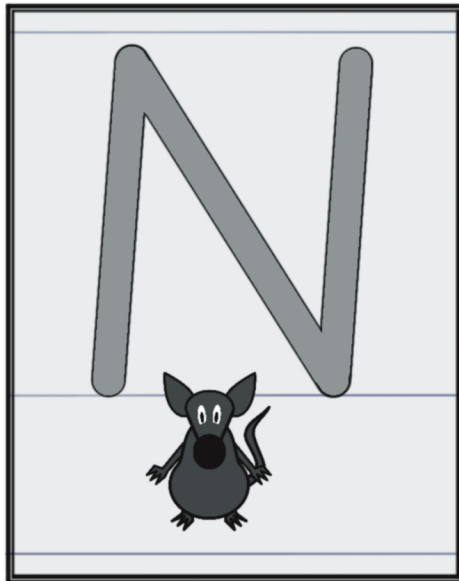
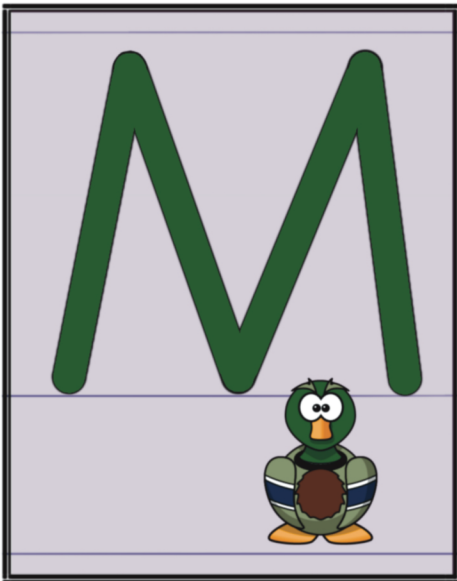
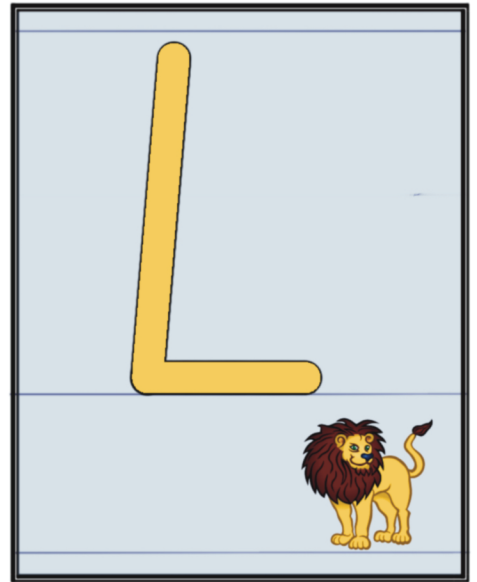
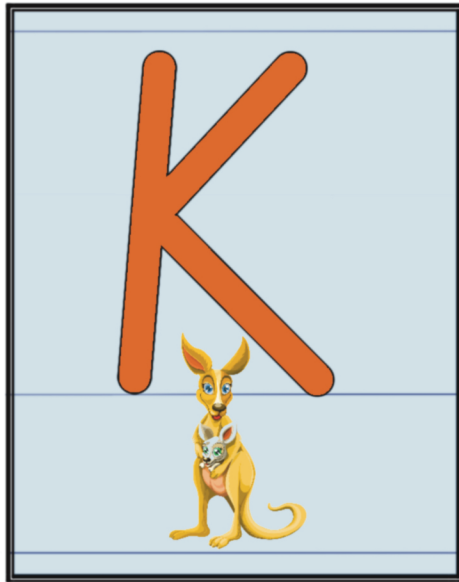
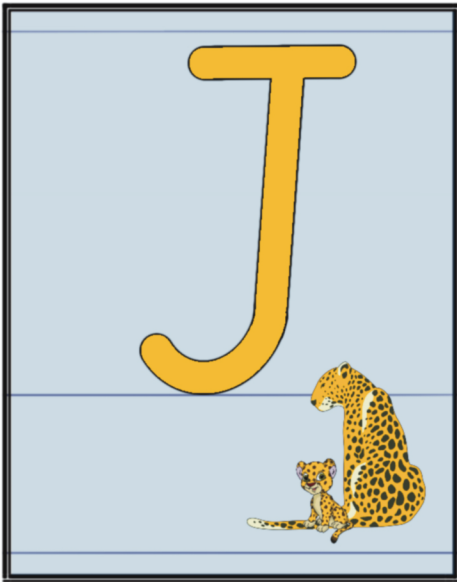


- The multiple-stroke letters are A, B, D, E, F, H, I, J, K, M, N, P, Q, R, T, X and Y.
- The single-stroke letters are C, G, L, O, S, U, V, W and Z.

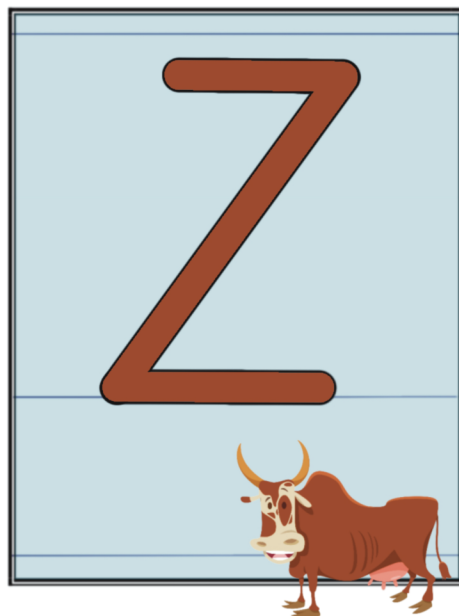
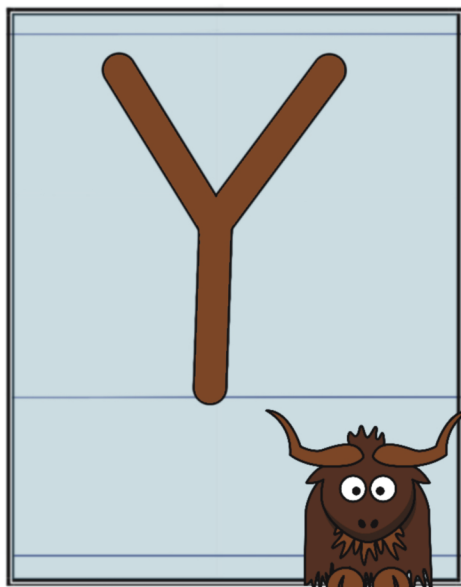
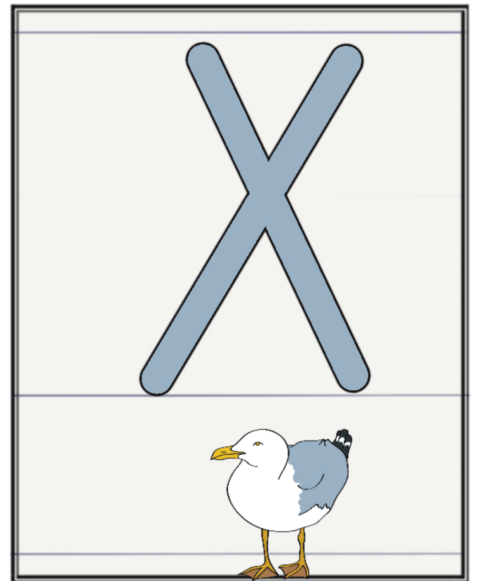
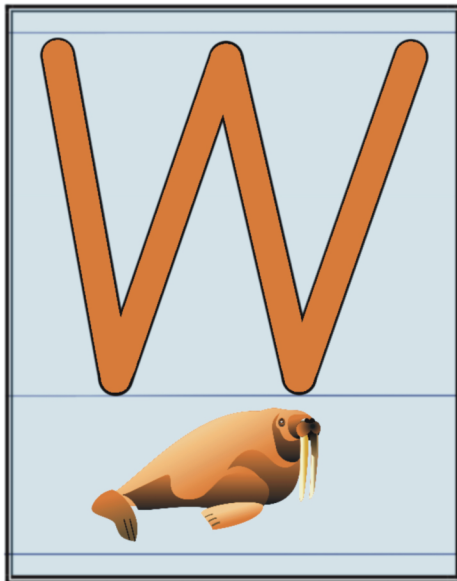
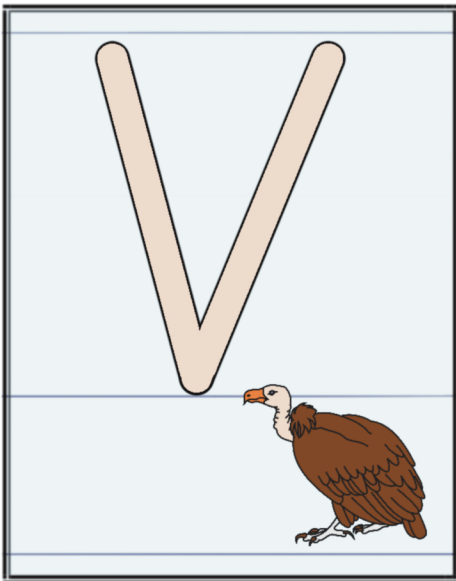
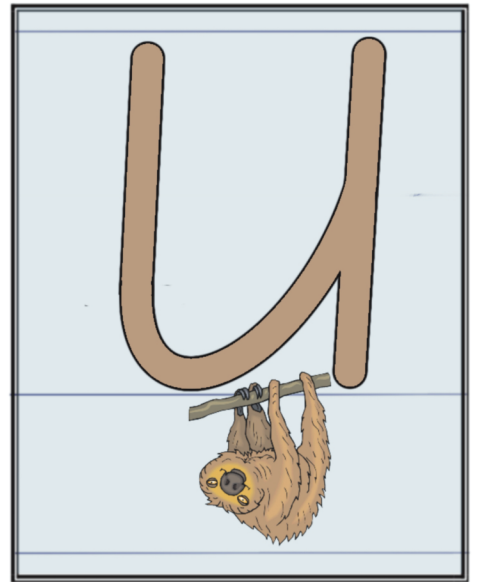
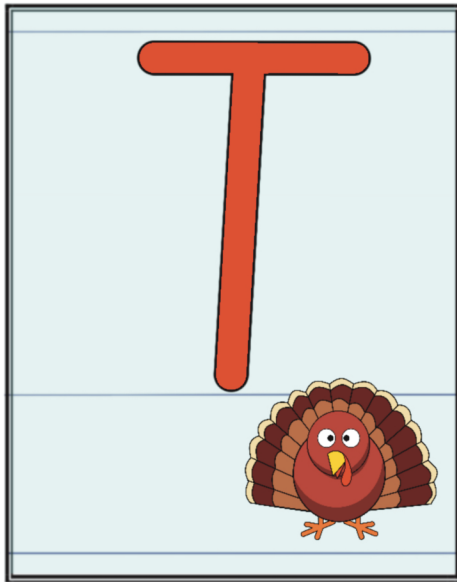
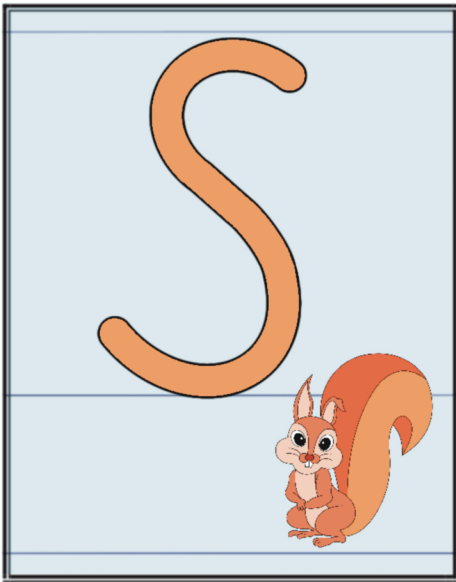
# PLAYING CARDS



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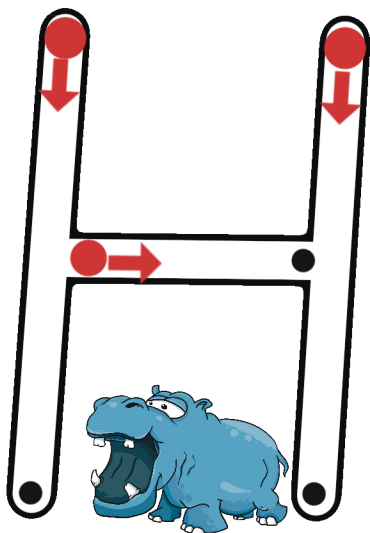
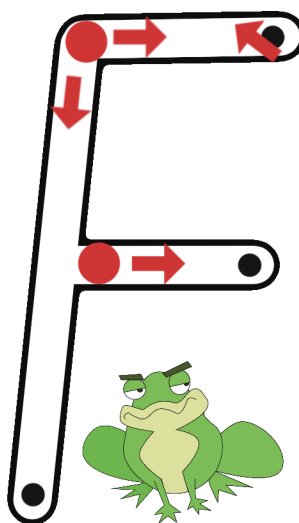
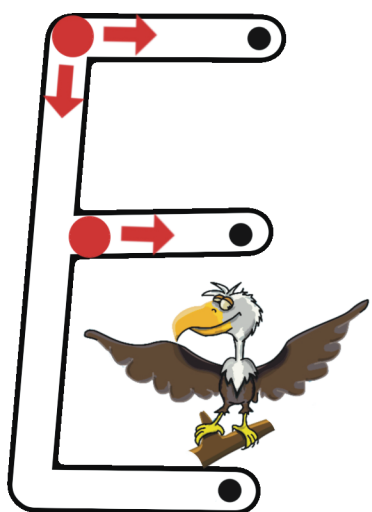




# Finger Tracing

Start at the red dot, go to the black dot to complete each stroke, only lifting your finger to go to the next red dot. Trace and name each letter. Repeat until you can form each letter with your eyes closed.

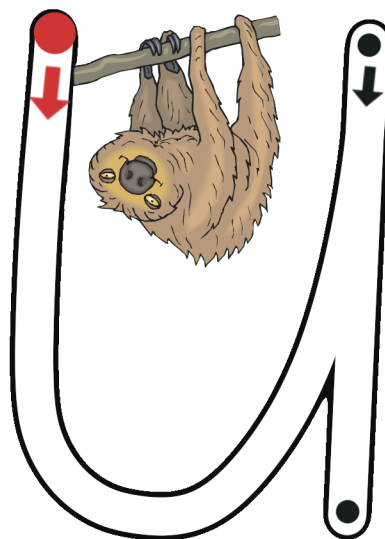
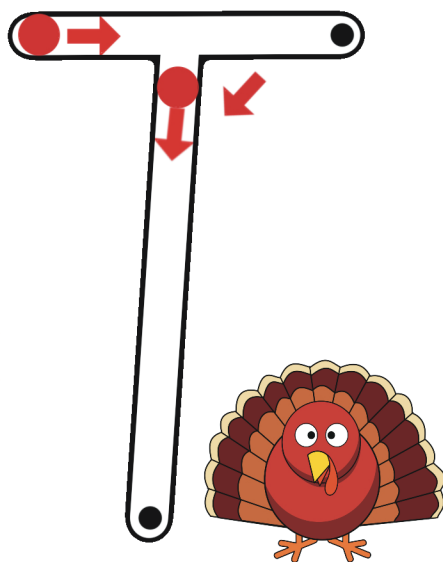
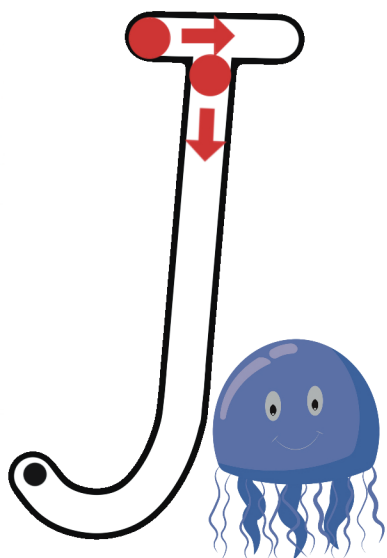
## Group 1



# Finger Tracing

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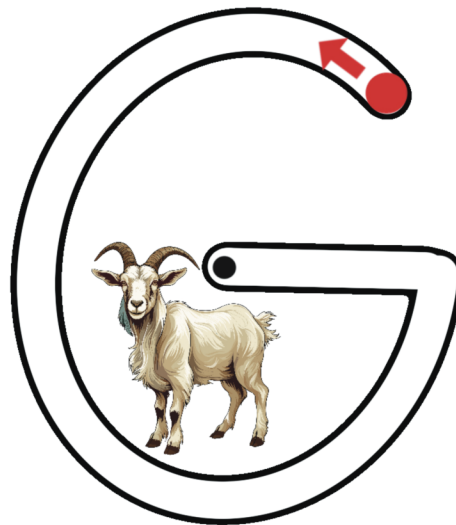
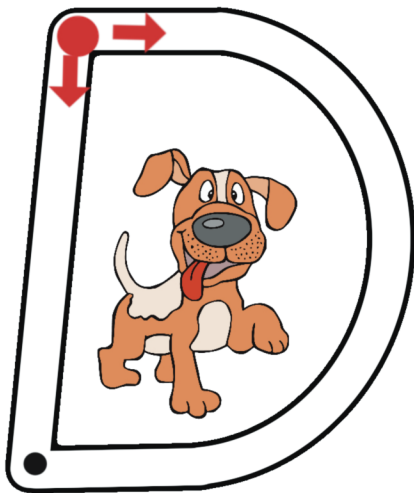
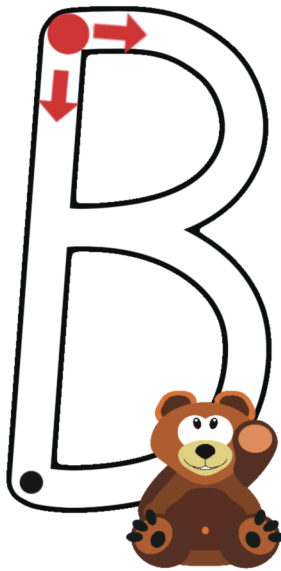
## Group 1



# Finger Tracing

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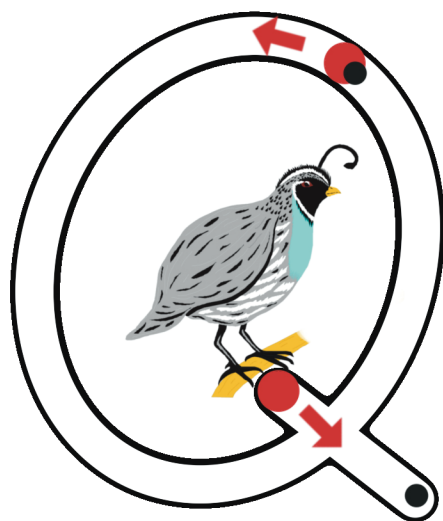
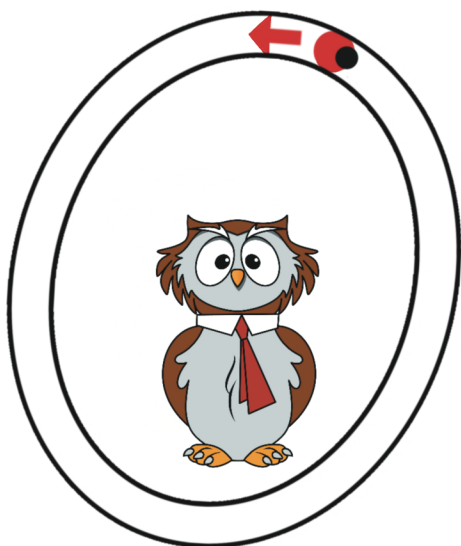
## Group 2



# Finger Tracing

Start at the red dot, go to the black dot to complete each stroke, only lifting your finger to go to the next red dot. Trace and name each letter. Repeat until you can form each letter with your eyes closed.

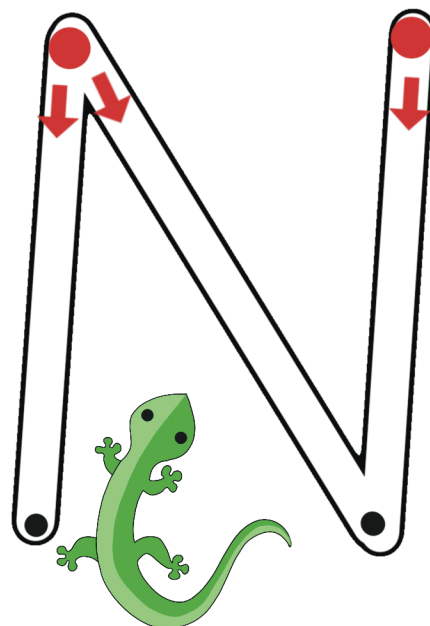
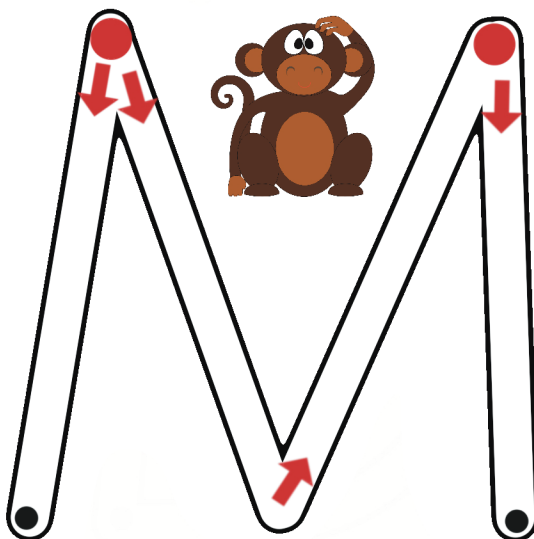
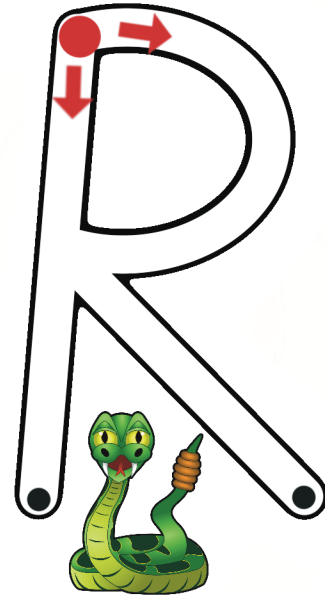
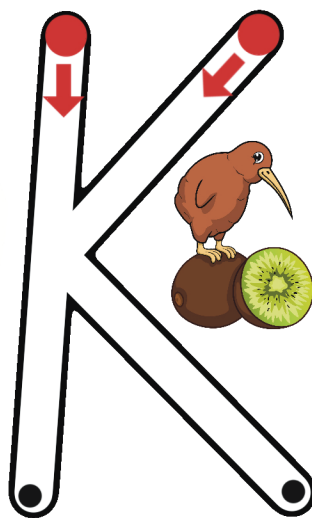
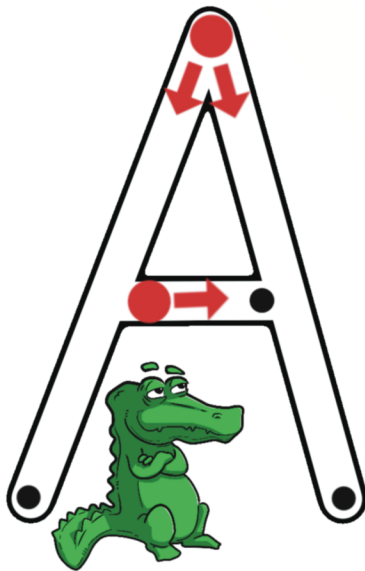
## Group 2



# Finger Tracing

Start at the red dot, go to the black dot to complete each stroke, only lifting your finger to go to the next red dot. Trace and name each letter. Repeat until you can form each letter with your eyes closed.

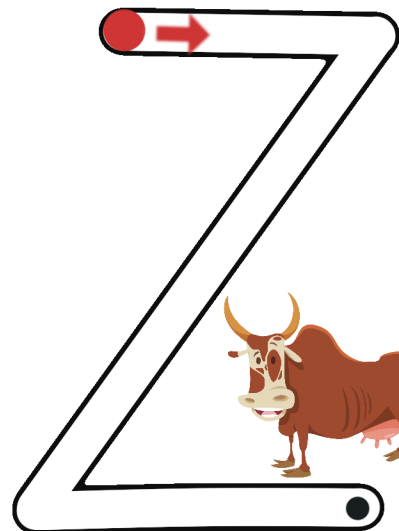
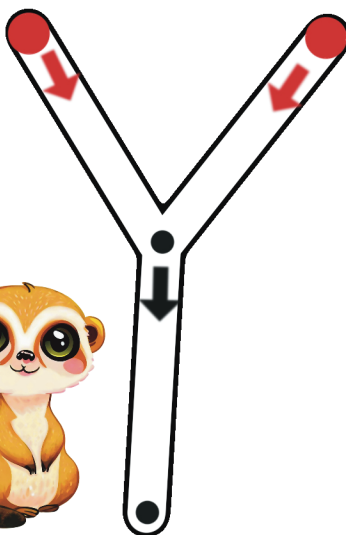
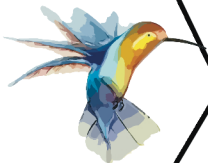
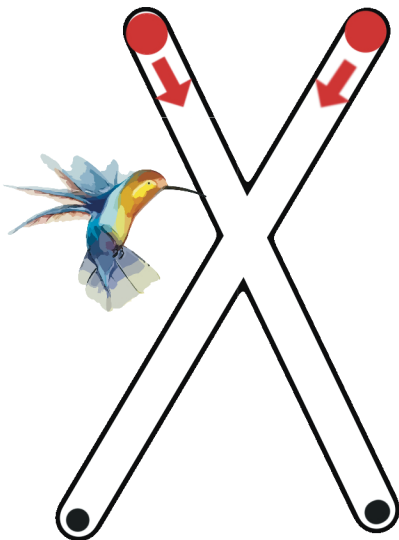
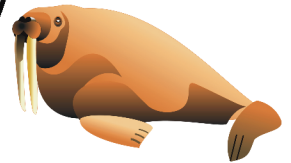
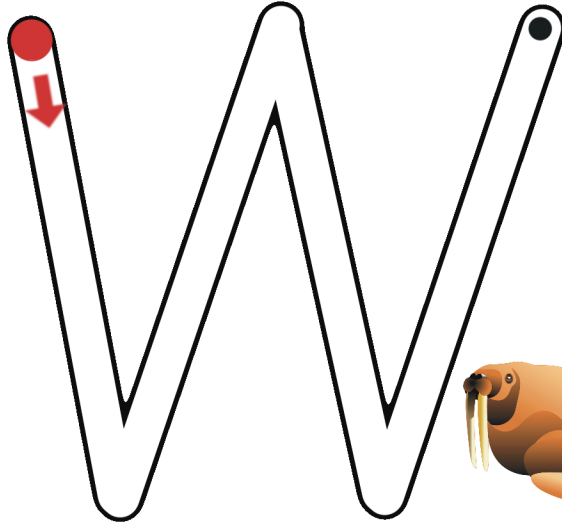
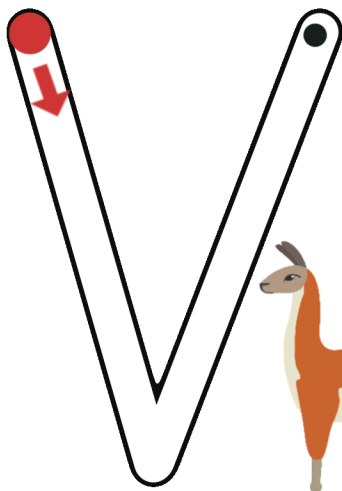
## Group 3



# Finger Tracing

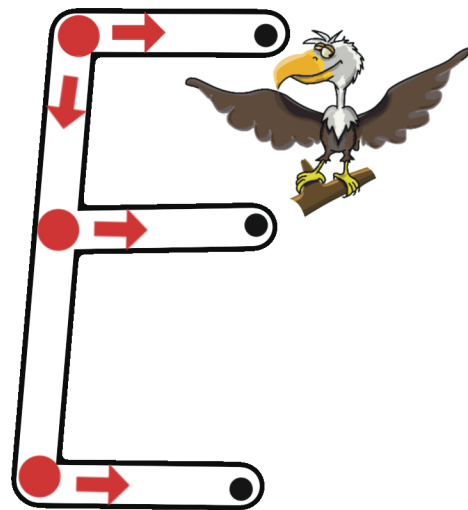
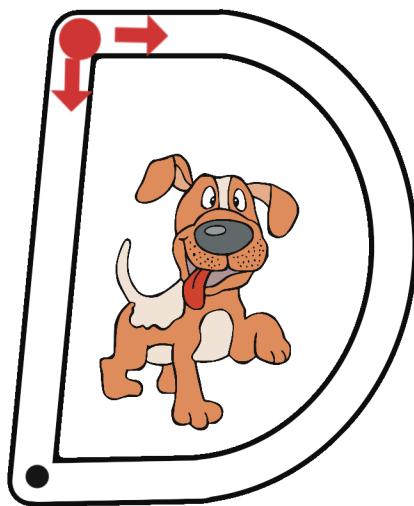
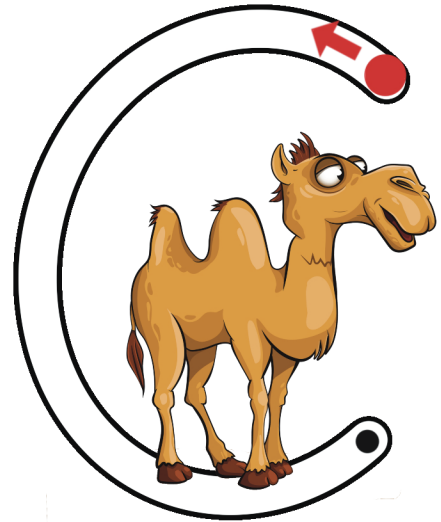
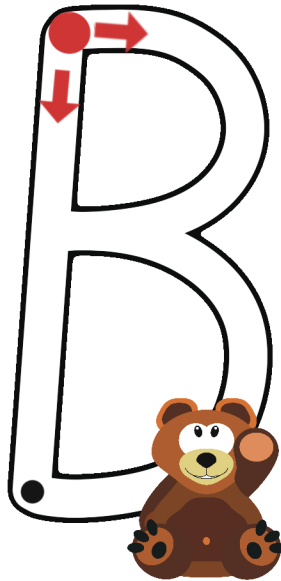
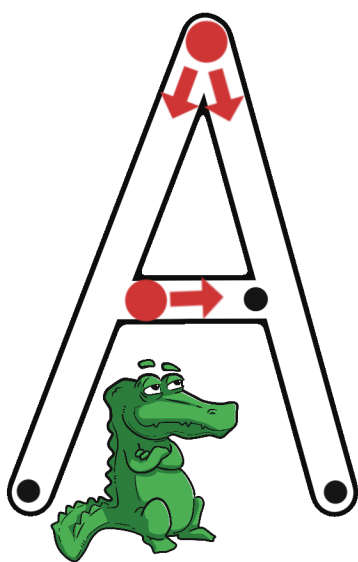
Start at the red dot, go to the black dot to complete each stroke, only lifting your finger to go to the next red dot. Trace and name each letter. Repeat until you can form each letter with your eyes closed.

## Group 3



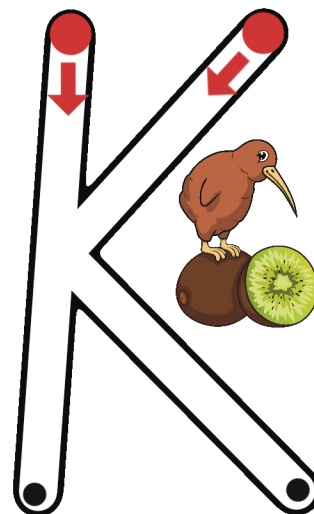
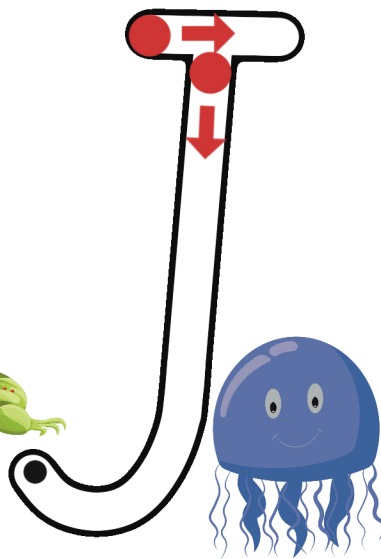
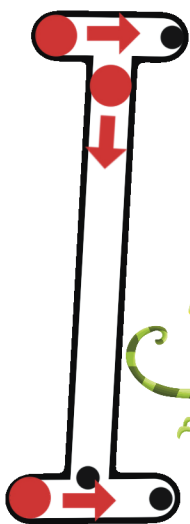
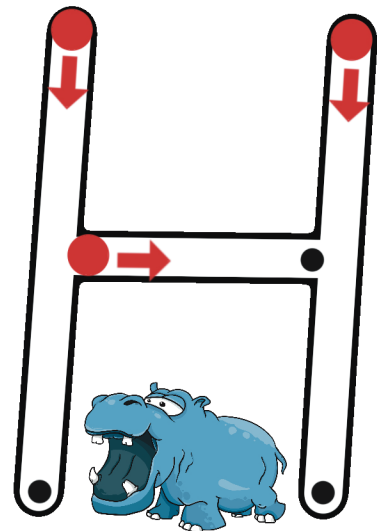
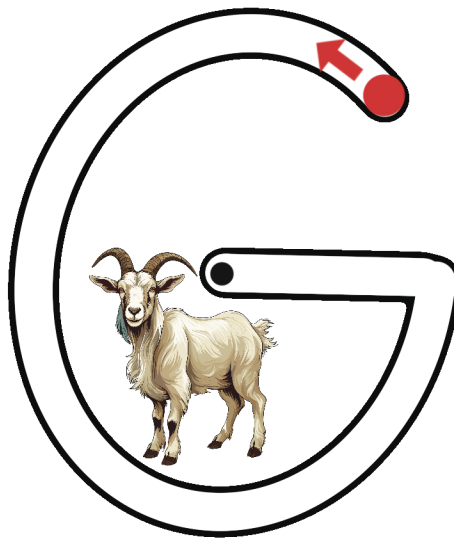
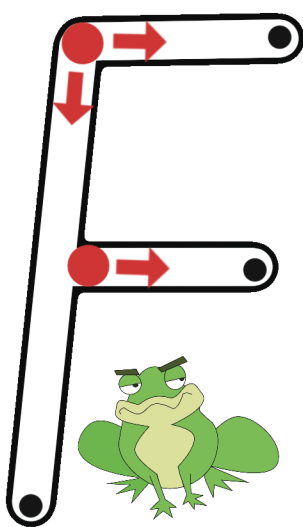
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# Finger Tracing

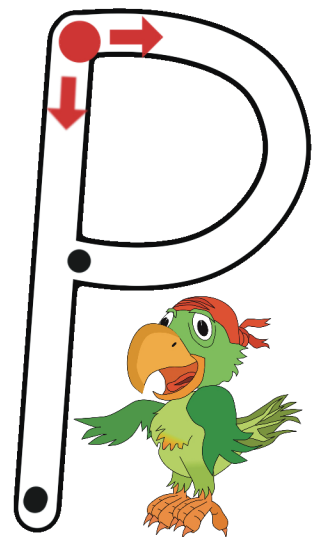
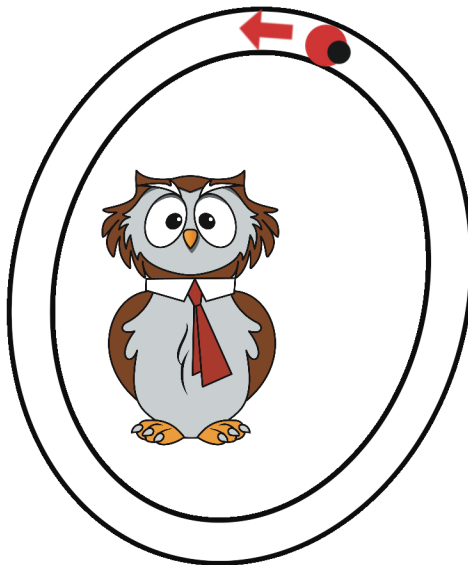
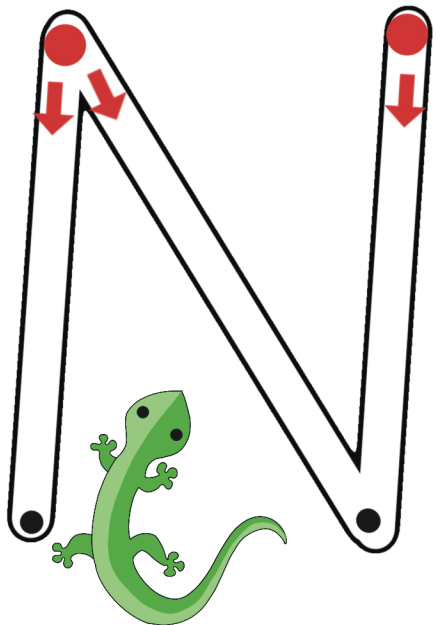
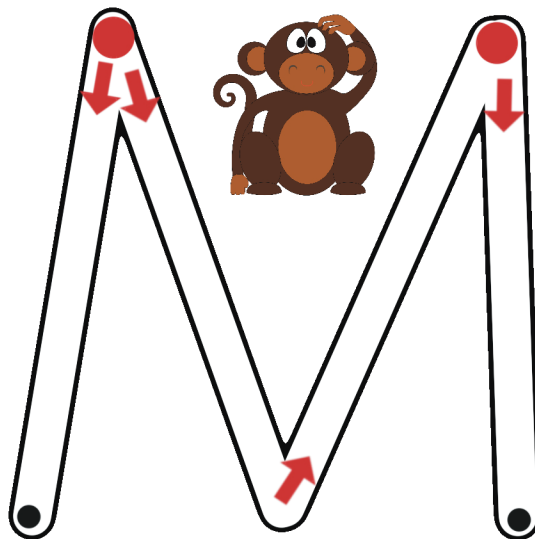
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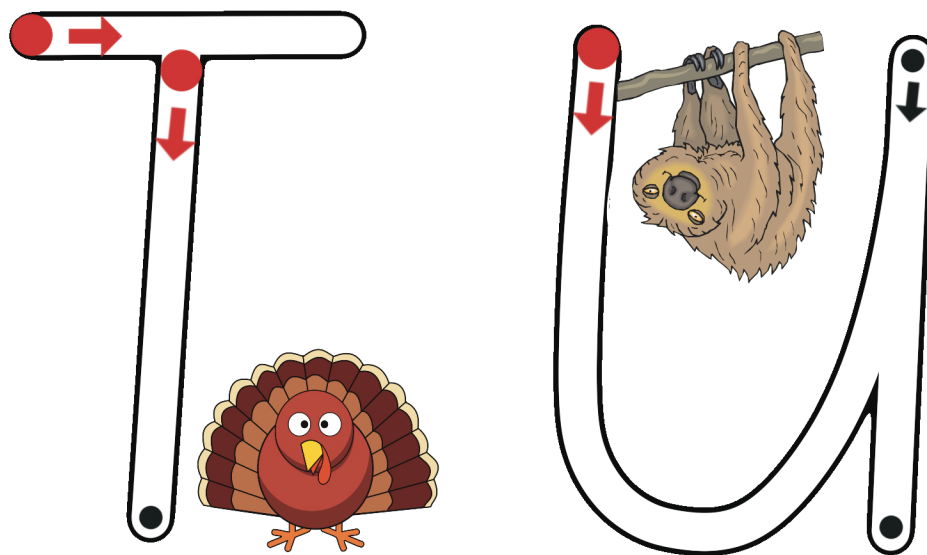
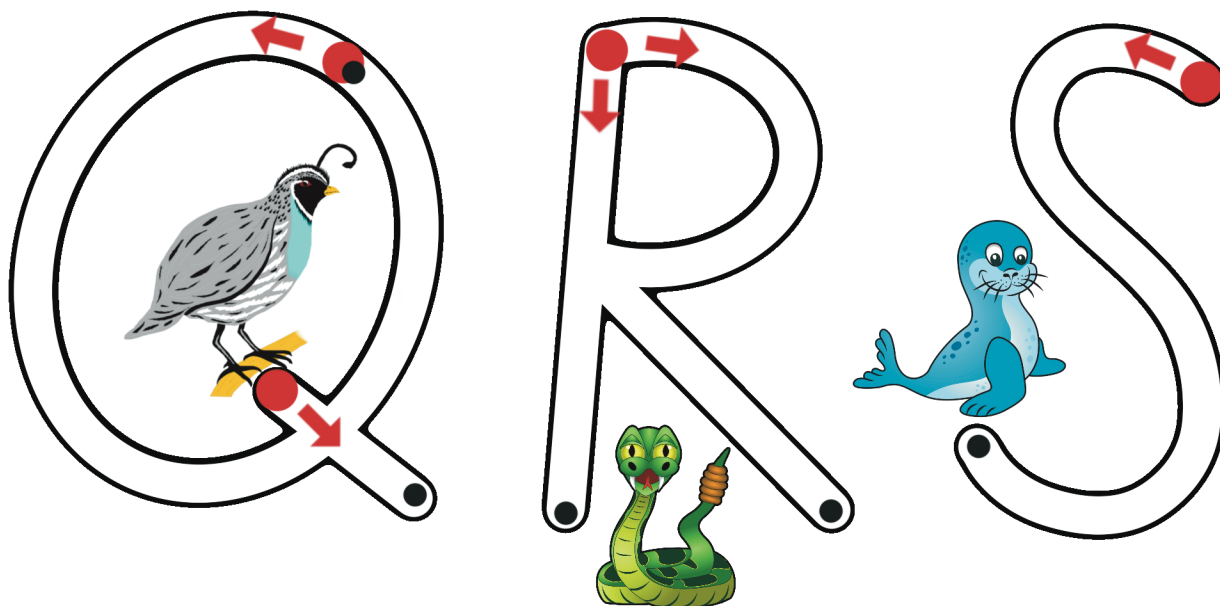
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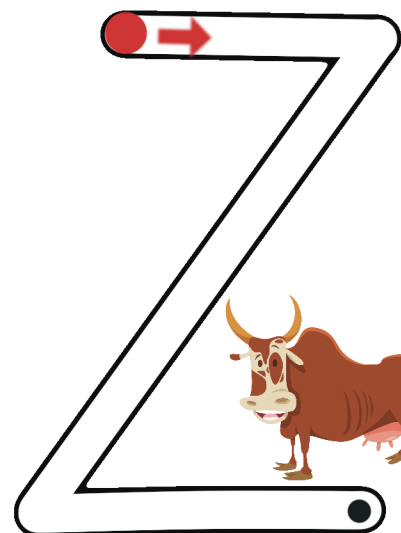
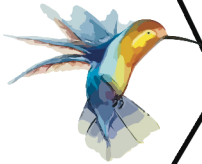
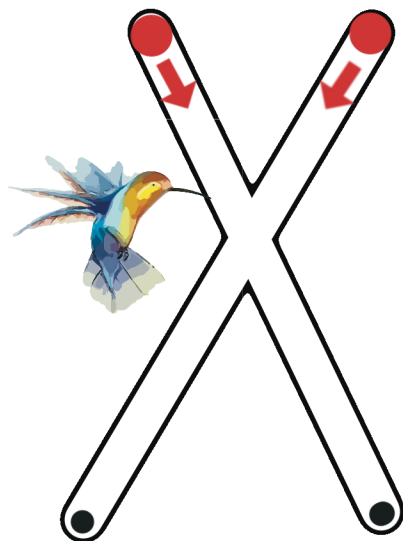
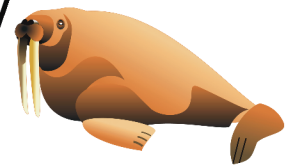
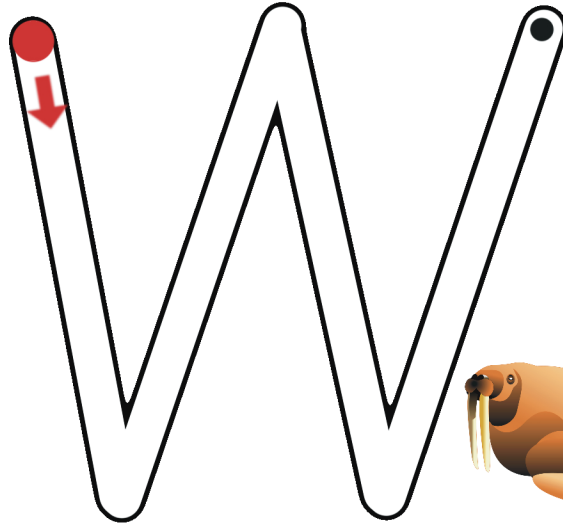
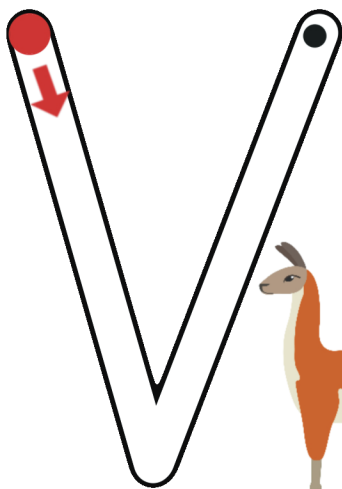
# Finger Tracing

Start at the red dot, go to the black dot to complete each stroke, only lifting your finger to go to the next red dot. Trace and name each letter. Repeat until you can form each letter with your eyes closed.



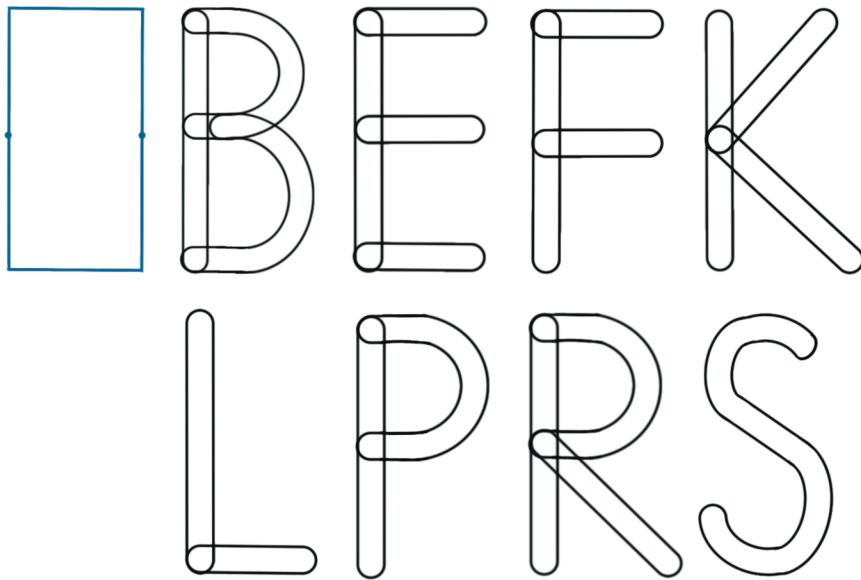
# Finger Tracing

Start at the red dot, go to the black dot to complete each stroke, only lifting your finger to go to the next red dot. Trace and name each letter. Repeat until you can form each letter with your eyes closed.



## UPPERCASE LETTER PROPORTIONS

**Narrow** The width of the letters B, E, F, K, L, P, R and S is one-half their height.



The top bowl of B is smaller than the bottom bowl.

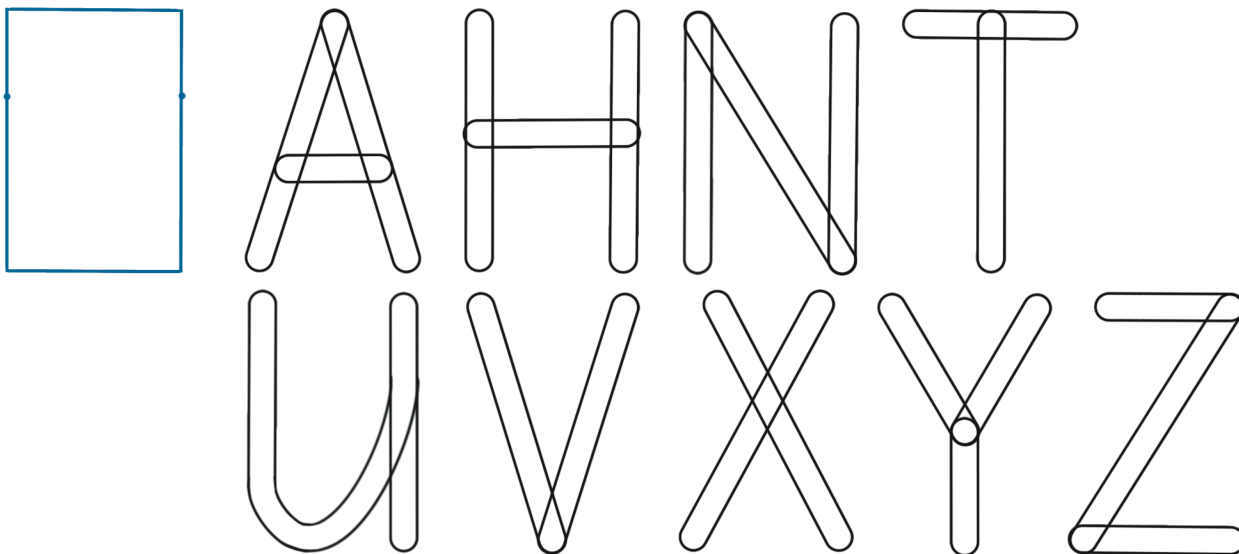
The middle bar of E is slightly above centre. The middle bar of F is slightly below centre.

The leg of K is longer and extends outside the narrow width.

The bowls of P and R are the same size as B's bottom bowl.

The leg of R extends outside the narrow width.

**Medium** The width of the letters A, H, N, T, U, V, Y and Z is two-thirds their height.



The crossbar of A is slightly below centre. The crossbar of H is slightly above centre.

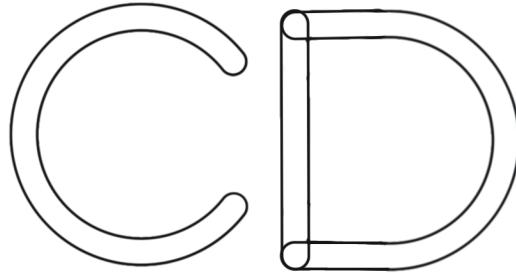
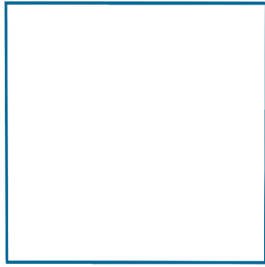
The X crosses above centre and the legs are wider than the arms.

The connection on Y is slightly below centre.

The top of Z is shorter than the bottom.

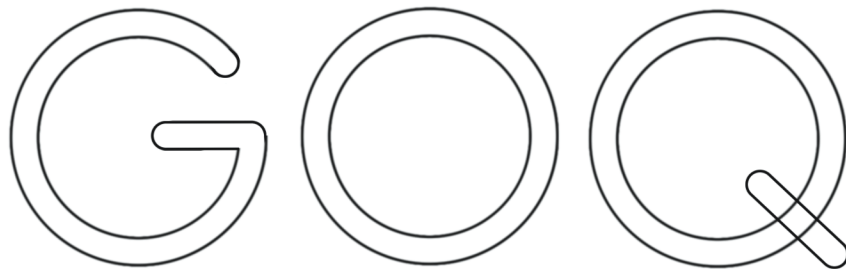
## UPPERCASE LETTER PROPORTIONS *con't*

**Wide and Round** *The width of the letters C, D, G, O and Q is almost the same as their height.*



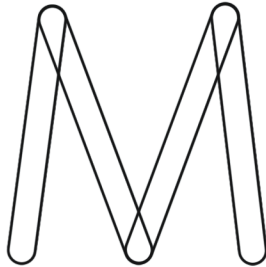
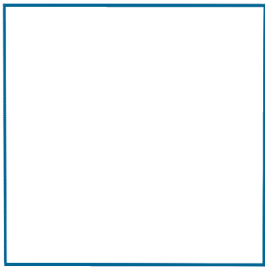
*The "C" and "D" are about 1 unit narrower than the other round letters.*

*The "G", "O" and "Q" fill the width.*



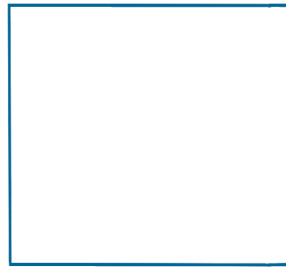
### **Wider**

*The bottom of the letter M is as wide as it is high. The top is narrower.*



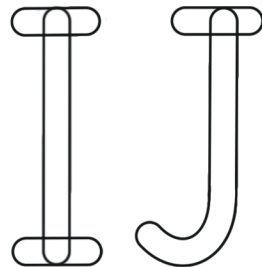
### **Widest**

*The top of the letter W is slightly wider than it is high. The bottom is narrower.*



### **Narrowest**

*The width of the letters I and J is one-third their height.*



# UPPERCASE LETTERS - PROPORTION PRACTICE

## Narrowest and Narrow Letters

I I I I J I I I

B I I I I I I

E I I I I I I

H I I I I I I

K I I I I I I

L I I I I I I

P I I I I I I

R I I I I I I

S I I I I I I

# UPPERCASE LETTERS - PROPORTION PRACTICE

## Medium Letters

A						
H						
N						
I						
U						
V						
X						
Y						
Z						

UPPERCASE LETTERS  
PROPORTION PRACTICE  
Wide and Round  
Wide and Widest Letters

