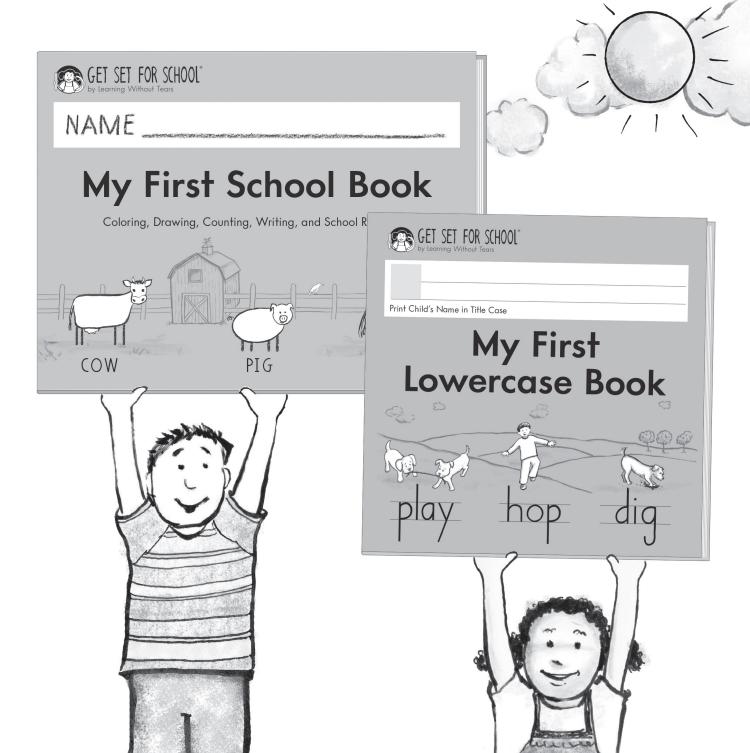


# Readiness & Writing

Pre-K Teacher's Guide



#### 1 - INTRODUCTION

- 4 Get to Know Get Set for School®
- 6 Core Learning Areas
- 8 Using Your Teacher's Guide
- 10 Activity & Letter Lesson Design
- 12 Hands-On Products for Readiness & Writing
- 14 PreKITT: The Pre-K Interactive Teaching Tool
- 15 myLWTears.com
- 16 Using My First School Book
- 18 Pre-K Classroom & Children
- 19 Multisensory Instruction
- 20 Scope & Sequence of Printing
- 21 Pre-K Teaching Guidelines
- 30 Handwriting in Pre-K & Kindergarten
- 31 Next Step: My First Lowercase Book

## 33 - READINESS

- 34 Developing Social Skills
- 35 Shake Hands
- 36 Developmental Stages in Writing
- 38 Children's Hand Skills
- 40 Teaching Crayon Grip
- 41 Crayon Song
- 42 Wood Pieces Set
- 43 Wood Piece Play
- 44 Wood Pieces with Music
- 45 Polish, Sort & Trade Wood Pieces
- 46 Wood Pieces in a Bag
- 47 Wood Pieces in a Box
- 48 Positions & Body Parts with Wood Pieces
- 50 Curves & Circles
- 52 Vertical, Horizontal & Diagonal Positions
- 54 Stages of Learning

## 57 - DRAWING

- 58 Developing Drawing Skills
- 59 Expressive Easel Art
- 60 Build & Sing Mat Man®
- 62 Draw Mat Man®
- 64 Mat Man® Pattern
- 65 Mat Man Shapes Book
- 66 Draw Shapes in My First School Book
- 67 Draw in My First School Book
- 68 Draw in My Book
- 69 Draw with Line It Up™

## 71 - ALPHABET KNOWLEDGE

- 72 ABC's on the Sing Along Album
- 73 ABC Sing & Point
- 74 Alphabet Animals on Parade
- 75 Three a Day—Capitals to Say

- 76 CAPITALS on the Edge
- 77 Name That Capital
- 78 Letter & Picture Match
- 79 Sign In Please!
- 80 Lowercase Letters on the Edge
- Name of the Day
- 82 abc Sing & Point
- 83 Capital & Lowercase Letters
- 84 Lowercase Matching
- 85 Capital—Lowercase Matching

## 87 - COLORS & COLORING

- 88 Developing Crayon & Coloring Skills
- 90 Teaching Crayon Grip
- 91 Night Sky—Aim & Scribble
- 92 Aim & Scribble—Twinkle & Fireworks
- 94 Aim & Color—Aim & Trace
- 96 Red/Green
- 97 Yellow/Purple
- 98 Blue/Orange
- 99 Pink/Brown 100 Gray/Black
- 101 Colors

## 103 - PRE-WRITING

- 104 Hands-On Letter Play
- 106 Capitals with Letter Cards
- 107 Capitals on the Mat for Wood Pieces
- 108 Air Writing
- 109 Door Tracina
- 110 Roll-A-Dough Letters®
- 111 Stamp & See Screen®
- 112 Line It Up™
- 113 A-B-C Touch & Flip® Cards
- 114 Wet-Dry-Try on the Slate
- 115 Wet-Dry-Try Student App
- 16 Teaching Letters with Technology
- 117 A+ Worksheet Maker Lite

## 119 - WRITING CAPITAL LETTERS

- 120 Writing in My First School Book
- 122 Developmental Stages in Writing
- 123 Developmental Teaching—Capitals First
- 124 Where Do You Start Your Letters?

#### VERTICAL & HORIZONTAL: L F E H T I U

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- 125 Chicks & Ducks
- 126 Shape—Cross
- 127 Letter **L**
- 128 Shape—Square
- 129 Letter **F**
- 130 Pre-Stroke for **E** & Letter **E**
- 132 Shape—Rectangle

- 133 Letter **H**
- 134 Letter **T**
- 135 Letter **I**
- 136 The "Rain Song"
- 137 Letter **U**

#### MAGIC C: C O Q G S J

- 138 Make a Magic C Bunny
- 139 Magic C
- 140 Pre-Stroke for C & Letter C
- 142 Pre-Stroke for **O** & Letter **O**
- 144 Shape—Circle
- 145 Letter Q
- 146 Pre-Stroke for **G** & Letter **G**
- 148 Pre-Stroke for **S** & Letter **S**
- 150 Pre-Stroke for **J** & Letter **J**

#### BIG & LITTLE CURVES: D P B

- 152 Pre-Stroke for **D**, **P**, **B**, & **R**
- 153 Letter **D**
- 154 Letter **P**
- 155 Letter B

#### DIAGONALS: R K A M N V W X Y Z

- 156 Pre-Stroke for R & Letter R
- 158 Pre-Stroke for **K** & Letter **K**
- 160 Pre-Stroke for A & Letter A162 Shape—Triangle
- 163 Shape—Rhombus
- 164 Pre-Stroke for **M** & Letter **M**
- 166 Pre-Stroke for N & Letter N
- 168 Shapes Review
- 169 Mat Man® Shapes
- 170 Pre-Stroke V & W & Letter V
- 172 Letters **W** & **X**
- 174 Letters **Y** & **Z**
- 176 Alphabet Review
- 177 Capitals in Gray Blocks
- 178 Help Me Write My Name
- 170 T 1: N : T: C
- 179 Teaching Name in Title Case
- 180 Help Me Write My Name in Title Case181 Learning CAPITALS & Lowercase Letters

## 183 - COUNTING & NUMBERS

- 184 Wet-Dry-Try on the Slate
- 186 Get Set for School Sing Along Album
- 187 Sing, Sound & Count With Me Album
  - 188 "Count on Me": One 1
  - 190 Bird Legs: Two **2**
- 192 "That Would Be Me!": Three 3
- 194 "Animal Legs": Four 4
- 196 "Five Finger Play": Five **5**
- 198 Six **6** & Seven **7**
- 200 Eight **8** & Legs **2**, **4**, **6**, **8**
- 202 Nine **9** & Ten **10**

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- 204 Number Review
- 205 1-2-3 Touch & Flip® Cards
- 206 I Know My Numbers

## 209 - WRITING LOWERCASE LETTERS

- 210 Writing in My First Lowercase Book
- 212 Lowercase Teaching Order
- 213 Wet-Dry-Try on the Blackboard
- 214 Pencil Pick-Ups
- 215 Capitals for Me
- 216 Magnetic Lowercase & Blackboard Set
- 217 Getting Ready with the Hand Activity

## SAME AS CAPITALS & t: c o s v w - t

- 218 Cc & Oo Activity Pages
- 220 Ss & Vv Activity Pages222 Ww & Tt Activity Pages

## MAGIC c LETTERS: a d g

- 224 Aa & Dd Activity Pages
- 226 **Gg** Activity Page227 Magic c Letters: **c** o a d g
- MORE VOWELS: u i e
- 228 **Uu** & **Ii** Activity Pages
- 230 **Ee** Activity Page
- TRANSITION GROUP: 1 k y j 231 LI Activity Page
- 232 **Kk** & **Yy** Activity Pages234 **Jj** Activity Page

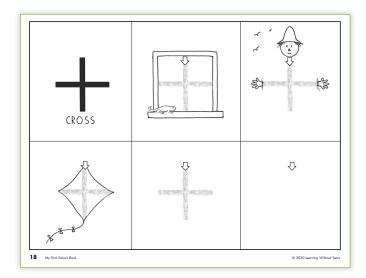
## DIVER LETTERS: p r n m h b

- DIVER LETTERS. P
- 235 **Pp** Activity Page
- 236 **Rr** & **Nn** Activity Pages
- 238 **Mm** & **Hh** Activity Pages 240 **Bb** Activity Page
- 241 Diver Letters: **p r n m h b**
- FINAL GROUP: f q x z
- 242 **Ff & Qq** Activity Pages244 **Xx & Zz** Activity Pages

## 247 – RESOURCES

- 248 Check Readiness
- 250 Readiness & Writing Benchmarks
- 252 Sensory Motor Benchmarks
- 254 Social-Émotional Benchmarks
- 256 Get Set for School Sing Along Album
  258 Sing, Sound & Count With Me Album
  - 260 School-to-Home Connections
  - 261 Help Me Hold My Crayon
- 262 Help Me Write My Name 263 Index
- 266 References
- 271 Letter Charts
- 274 Number Stories

# **Shape - Cross**



Three-year-olds can make a circle before they can make a cross. For four-year-olds, we use the cross to prepare them to write letters with vertical and horizontal strokes. Teach the vertical from top to bottom and the cross from left to right.

## **Activity**

This is a shape page. This shape is a cross.

#### **Look and Learn**

Look at the pictures and name them together: **cross, window, scarecrow, kite, cross.** Then say together: **This is a cross. The window has a cross; the scarecrow has a cross,** etc. This strategy helps children learn words and left-to-right reading. The window has something else—a lizard.

#### Trace, Color, and Draw Crosses

Demonstrate how to draw a cross: **Little Line down, Little Line across.** Trace the first cross together. Children put their crayons on the arrow, Little Line down, Little Line across. Children trace, color, and draw as they like.

#### ✓ Check

Check for who needs help with crayon grip. Notice handedness and use of helping hand.

## Support/ELL

Children who are not ready for crayon tracing can finger trace over each cross.

#### **More To Learn**

Show children pictures of scarecrows and crows. **Scarecrow** is a big word, a compound word. It is made with two little words: scare, crow. Put them together.

#### Look What We're Learning

#### **Foundation Skills**

- Recognize familiar two-dimensional shapes
- Draw simple shapes
- Use correct top-to-bottom, left-to-right directionality for symbols

#### Oral Language

Learn words linked to content being taught

#### Writing

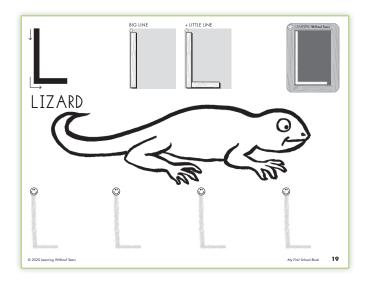
- Hold a crayon with proper grip to write
- Use helping hand to stabilize objects and papers

#### **Sensory Motor**

- Use same hand consistently to hold crayons
- Use fingers to hold crayons

#### Vocabulary

cross window scarecrow kite



## **Activity**

This is the L page. L is a letter. Do you know: L words? L names? L sounds? Have you ever seen a lizard?

#### **Look and Learn**

Let's find Ls on this page. Look. There's a lizard. Lizard starts with L. Is a lizard an animal or a person? Where do lizards live? What do lizards have?

#### **Color and Draw**

Let's color the lizard. Show pictures. Lizards can be any color. They can have spots or stripes. Draw rocks or grass for the lizard too. Demonstrate. The lizard needs a tongue!

#### Trace and Write L

Finger trace the L at the top of the page. (Say directions.)

Let's write L. Put the crayon on the ③. Big Line down. Little Line across the bottom.

#### ✓ Check

Check for those who need help with crayon grip. Notice handedness and use of the helping hand.

## Support/ELL

Help children make a sharp corner on **L**. Make the Big Line go straight down to a full stop, and then make the Little Line.

#### **More To Learn**

Look for lizards in reptile books. Find other animals in the reptile family.

## Look What We're Learning

#### **Foundation Skills**

- Use correct top-to-bottom, left-to-right directionality for letters
- Sequencing

#### **Oral Language**

- Respond to simple questions
- Learn words linked to content being taught

#### Writing

- Hold a crayon with proper grip to write
- Use helping hand to stabilize objects and papers
- Trace capital letters

#### **Sensory Motor**

- Use same hand consistently to hold crayons
- Use fingers to hold crayons

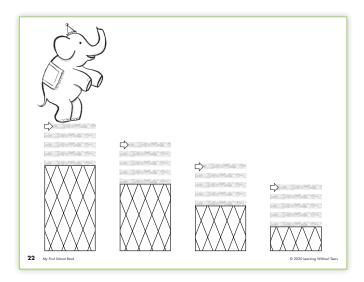
#### Vocabulary

lizard

spots

stripes

# **Pre-Stroke for E**



Prepare children for **E** with this pre-stroke page, which has horizontal lines to trace. Developmentally, the horizontal line is one of the easiest strokes for a child. Focus on left-to-right tracing and stopping.

## **Activity**

This is a line page. The lines are horizontal. The floor is horizontal.

#### **Look and Learn**

Look at the elephant. This is a circus elephant. How can we tell?

#### Trace and Color Pre-Strokes for E

Demonstrate how to write lines. Children put their crayons on the arrow as you say: **Big Line across. Slow down, get ready to stop. Look, we made a line.** They color the page as they like. It is a circus, so encourage bright colors.

#### ✓ Check

Observe children as they trace and color. Do they know about bright and dull colors? Earth colors, the colors of dirt, are considered dull. Flowers usually have bright colors.

#### Support/ELL

Use an oven rack to help children learn to make horizontal lines. Just pull the crayon along the rungs. The rack also helps children to stop.

#### **More To Learn**

Show picture books about elephants. Some tame elephants work to lift and carry heavy loads. Children may know cartoon or storybook elephants.

#### Look What We're Learning

#### **Foundation Skills**

Listen to oral directions to attend to a simple task

#### **Oral Language**

- Respond to simple questions
- Learn words linked to content being taught
- Communicate thoughts with words

#### Writing

- Hold a crayon with proper grip to write
- Use helping hand to stabilize objects and papers

#### **Sensory Motor**

- Use same hand consistently to hold crayons
- Use fingers to hold crayons
- Notice and attach meaning to visual information

#### Vocabulary

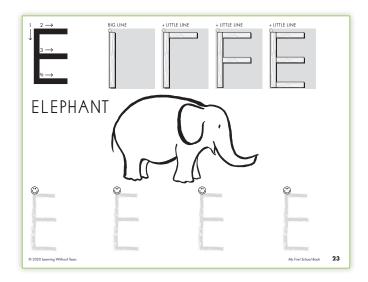
horizontal

circus

lines

elephant

floor



## **Activity**

This is the E page. Do you know: E words? E names? E sounds? Have you seen an elephant?

#### Look and Learn

Let's find the Es. Look. There's an elephant. Elephant starts with E. Compare body parts of a person and an elephant: nose/trunk, ears/ears, two legs/four legs, no tail/one tail. How do elephants pick up things? What do you have that elephants don't have? Hands and fingers!

#### **Color and Draw**

Color the elephant any color you like. You can also draw trees and grass.

### **Trace and Write E**

Finger trace the E at the top of the page. (Say directions.)

Let's write E. Put the crayon on the  $\odot$ . Big Line down, Jump to the  $\odot$ , Little Line across the top, Little Line across the middle, Little Line across the bottom.

#### ✓ Check

Observe if children use just three Little Lines for **E**. Do they sometimes use extra lines?

#### Support/ELL

Crayon trace the Wood Pieces at the top of the page. Do each one step by step, saying the Wood Piece words.

#### **More To Learn**

Find the word ELEPHANT on the page. Act like an elephant: bend over, put hands together as a trunk, and swing side to side. Compare heavy and light.

## Look What We're Learning

#### **Foundation Skills**

- Name parts of the body
- Use correct top-to-bottom, left-to-right directionality
- Sequencing
- Listen to oral directions to attend to a simple task

#### Writing

- Hold a crayon with proper grip to write
- Use helping hand to stabilize objects and papers
- Trace capital letters

#### **Sensory Motor**

- Use same hand consistently to hold crayons
- Use fingers to hold crayons

#### Vocabulary

elephant hands fingers trunk words

names sounds