

Kinetic Letters® Programme overview

Kinetic Letters® is a handwriting programme for use in primary and secondary schools.

Using four main threads of

- Making bodies stronger,
- Holding the pencil,
- Learning the letters, and
- Flow and fluency,

it enables children to develop legible handwriting that is produced quickly and automatically. With the development of automaticity, handwriting becomes a valuable tool and not a hindrance to learning.

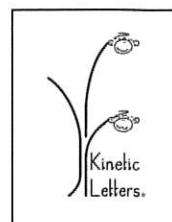
The Kinetic Letters® font covers all the letters in the alphabet and is based on a set of rules that have been made as simple as possible to enable fast learning. The order in which letters are taught recognizes the cognitive development of children.

The programme can be used with any reading programme including phonics. Initially reading and writing are taught separately (as recommended by phonics programmes); later on, reading and writing are combined.

Strength: Writing is a fine finger operation; children must have core body and arm strength to be able to control their fingers precisely.

Pencil hold: The pencil/pen grip must be comfortable to allow writing for long periods (eg exams often last for hours). Pens and pencils with a triangular cross-section assist in developing the correct hold.

Letter formation: The movements to form the letters begin with whole body movements and progress through writing in sand trays to writing on whiteboards and finally writing on paper. In Kinetic Letters®, all the letters and numbers are formed by one of two monkeys, a brave one (Bounce) who goes to the top branch of the tree, and a scared one (Skip) who goes to the lower branch.



Flow and fluency: Letter movements are minimized to help a fast writing style to develop. There are no lead-in strokes (a waste of time and effort).

There are resources available for parent to purchase from Kinetic Letters® (sales@kineticletters.com). These include:

- Whiteboards with the Kinetic Letters® tree logo and lines
- Pencils and whiteboard pens with a triangular cross-section
- Playing cards with all the letters and their method of formation
- Pupil books with exercises
- Story books explaining how each of the letter groups is formed.

Kinetic Letters®



Learning the letters and their letter families

<i>Family</i>	<i>Letters</i>	<i>Family Feature</i>
<i>Lower-case letters</i>		
Jumper Family	h n m b r p	Down-bump. Back up. Push over.
Abracadabra Family	c a o d s q g	Pull around and Push, Abracadabra.
Window Cleaner Family	l t i u	Down-bump. Flick (the water off).
Fisher Family	y j f g	Down, on-down and Pull around (to catch the fish).
Special Squirter	e	Push across. Up. Pull around and Push (along the ground).
Slider family	k v w x z	Slide
<i>Upper-case letters</i>		
Straight lined group	I L E F H T	Start with Down-bump.
Curved line group	C O S G Q	Start with Pull around
Lines with Curves group	D P B R J U	Combine Straight lines with Curves
Sliding lines group	A M N W V X Z K Y	Involve Diagonal lines
<i>Numbers</i>		
Pushing numbers	2 3 5 7	Push move helps orientation
Pulling numbers	0 6 9 8 4 1	Pull move helps orientation

Using the tree: When practising writing, use a writing line and the tree symbol to give a guide for both where the letters start and their proportions and how they sit on / go below the ground line.

