LESSON PLAN ON CURSIVE HANDWRITING



INTRODUCTION

Students are often excited about the opportunity to learn cursive writing! To master their letter formation, they will need lots of modelling and opportunities to practise their writing. This lesson guides you through how to model writing the lowercase and uppercase "a" and how to provide students with three different opportunities for independent practice. The lesson gives consideration to visual, auditory, and kinesthetic learning styles.

MATERIALS

- Chart paper
- Marker
- Mini-whiteboards and markers or clipboards, paper, and pencils
- Juggling scarves (optional)
- Lowercase Cursive A Worksheet
- Uppercase Cursive A Worksheet
- Cursive Letter Aa Printable Poster

PREPARATION

- The teacher will need lined chart paper to write on. Position the chart paper where all students can easily see it.
- Each student needs either a mini-whiteboard and marker or alternatively, a clipboard or other hard surface, paper, and pencil.
- If available, each student needs a juggling scarf. If scarves are not available, this step in the lesson can be modified.
- Print a copy of the lowercase and uppercase "a" worksheets for each student.
- Print the letter "Aa" poster and hang it in the classroom in an area easily accessed by students.

WHOLE GROUP LESSON
Begin by introducing students
to the cursive lowercase "a."
Refer to the printable poster
to show students what the
"a" looks like. This poster can

Research shows that using cursive writing benefits the development of children's fine motor skills. Some experts believe that students who struggle with the physical act of printing, which has them taking their pencils off the paper constantly, will find handwriting an easier skill. Making the physical task of writing less laborious frees up energy to instead focus on the content of what is being written. Handwriting may also be a quicker method than printing for students to record their thoughts.

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remain in your classroom as an anchor chart for students to refer to when they are writing.

Using chart paper, model how to write the letter "a." It is helpful to provide students with a verbal pathway as you write: Around, down, swing up. Model the formation of the letter "a" several times, using the verbal pathway each time.

Model for students how to form the letter "a" in the air using a juggling scarf. If you do not have scarves, students can use their index finger to make the letter "a" in the air. Have them chime in with the verbal pathway as they practise forming the letter several times. Ask students to practise writing the letter "a" on their whiteboards or paper. Have them make the letter several times. Remind them to use the verbal pathway.

INDEPENDENT PRACTICE
Provide each student with the lowercase "a" worksheets.
Circulate around the room, supporting as necessary, as they complete the worksheets.

Students who experience difficulty may need to see the formation modelled again and/ or be reminded of the verbal pathway to guide their writing.

Ask students to share the names and occupations they thought of that begin with the letter "a," which will help out any classmates who need ideas.

Get more cursive letters

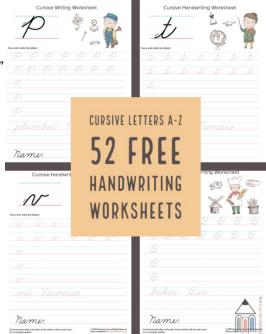
FOLLOW-UP

Use this same lesson structure to introduce the uppercase "A." Be certain to point out that the lowercase "a" is a short letter and the uppercase "A" is a tall letter. The printable poster is very helpful for showing students the difference in height between the two letters.

EXTENSIONS

Students can use other modalities to practise forming their letters. Other ideas include:

- Salt trays
- Chalkboards
- Sime
- Sand
- Paint





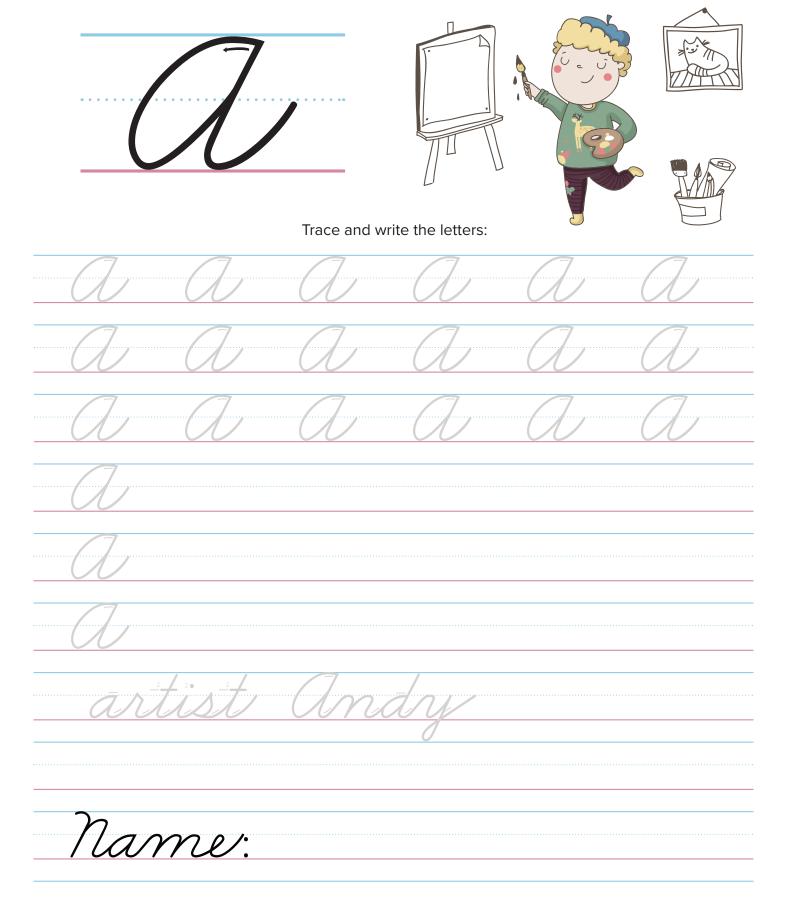


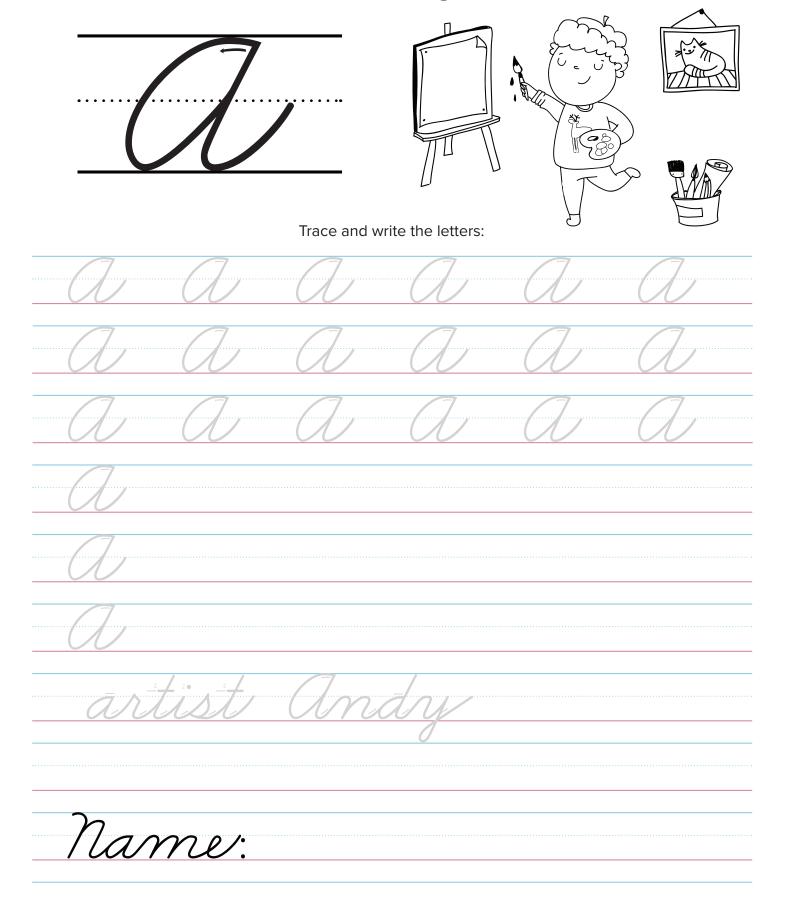
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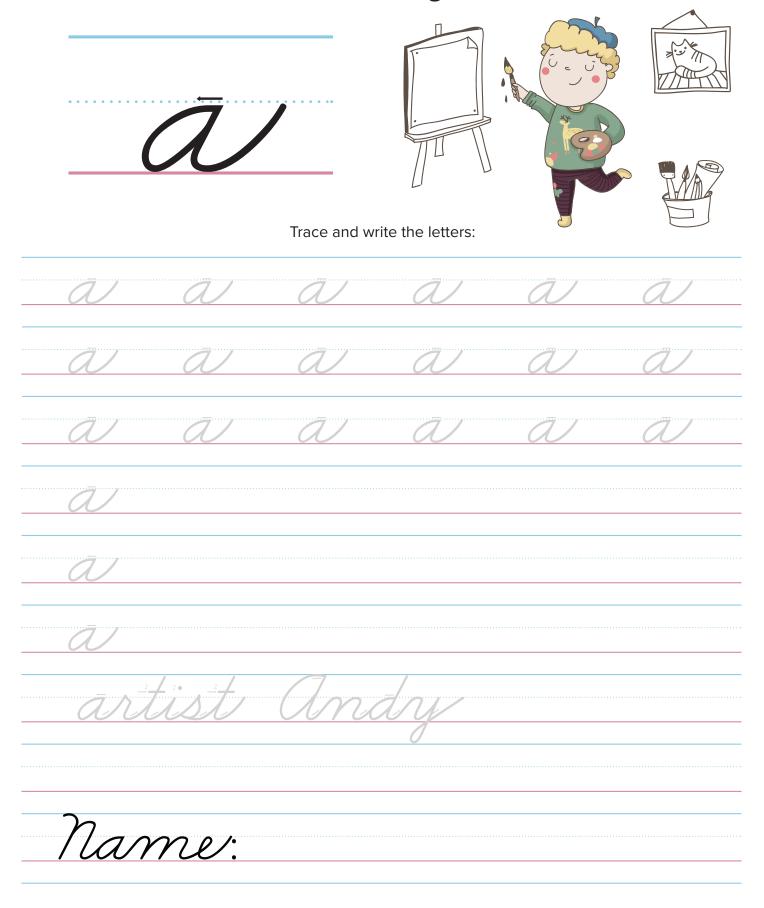


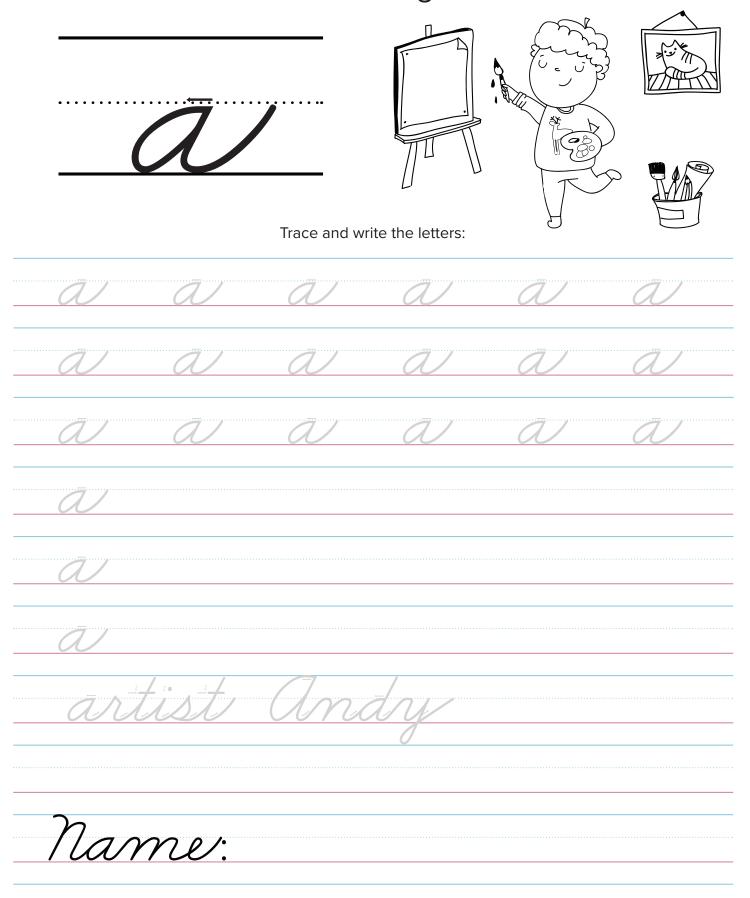


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suitable for second grade students

different occupations
for each letter

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