

WHAT IS A TYPICAL CLASS LIKE?

- 5 minutes of large motor work - tracing giant sized letters while emphasizing the First Stroke of the letter
- 15 minutes of medium motor work in FUN multi-sensory mediums such as Exploding paint, shaving cream, punch writing, with good touchpoints on the writing lines
- 10 minutes of workbook practice
- Zany craft activity for the letter of the day, with more practice of letters/words/sentences on handwriting paper or unlined paper
- Motor Gym work on visual memory of the letters of the day. For example, writing the letters in the air with eyes closed, then jumping in our letter pit or riding down a scooter board ramp.
- Multi-sensory work on reversal techniques
- Last 5 minutes of class is always show and tell and parent training!

The Handwriting Clinic

SENSORY MOTOR PRINT CLASSES!

1st/2nd graders

**1506 Capital St, Ste. 150
Plano, Texas 75074
972 633-1974**

SENSORY MOTOR PRINT CLASS

- Sequencing/letter attack skills
- Learn First Strokes
- Write letters in handwriting lines
- Write words, sentences within handwriting lines from visual Memory
- Improve legibility
- Zany Writing Topic
- Eliminate reversals

SENSORY MOTOR PRINT CLASS

Sensory-Motor Print Class (1 - 3 graders) - Re-teaches print formation with the First Stroke concepts and letter groups, using cool, multi-sensory strategies. Both standard print or "snail tails" style handwriting are taught. This class is for students who have learned print, but have difficulty with sequencing letters, writing within handwriting spaces, or with letter formation. Zany writing topics for writing generalization activities each session! **8 sessions.** See main school year or summer camp brochure, website, or call for current pricing and schedule.



Multi-sensory work in shaving cream for the letters of the day!



Practicing letters in our workbook!

We use the First Strokes® curriculum! See www.FirstStrokesHandwriting.com for more information.

Call 972 633-1974 to schedule. Classes fill quickly so call early!
www.TheHandwritingClinic.com www.FirstStrokesHandwriting.com

1st graders: Parents have a choice between the K/1st print class or the Sensory Motor Print Class. The differences are below:

	K/1st grade Print Class - 12 hours	Sensory Motor Print Class - 8 hours
First Strokes Multi-sensory Print Program	Yes, 1st graders usually go into the higher book, even in this class. We take it a little slower in this class - 2 - 3 letters per day, versus sometimes 5 letters a day in the SM Print Class	Yes, 1st graders are almost always in the higher book, but occasionally we will put a 1st grader in the K book if needed.
Work on fine motor skills	Yes, games in gym, fine motor obstacle courses, and fine motor lab table each session	No. But if there is any work that is needed on grasp, we will refer to grasp class
Work on grasp development	Yes	No, we will encourage what the kids learned in grasp class, but there is no time to teach new skills on grasp development in this class
Fun Zany Writing Topics	Yes, and the 1st graders usually write sentences about the craft, where as Kindergarteners usually work on mostly writing a word about the craft.	Yes, the students copy or compose sentences about their fun craft.
Best overall guess;	If your 1st grader has delayed fine motor skills, struggles with remembering how to write letters, and is frustrated with handwriting, this class is best.	If your first grader has a good grasp, or even has a fairly poor grasp but otherwise good fine motor skills, mostly struggles with handwriting but does well in other subjects, the SM Print class may be best. Many of the students in the SM Print class have difficulties reversing letters, writing within the handwriting lines, and mix upper and lower case. These are problems we can usually help in the SM Print class.

My student sequences letters bottom to top, and in funny ways!

There is good and bad news here! If you ask most 4 1/2 year olds to copy letters, they often can make the letter LOOK like the letter, but the child may use too many strokes, or poor sequencing to write the letter. Gifted children often have the worst sequencing, because they were even younger when they began writing letters. The problem is that the bad habits for sequencing letters usually begins BEFORE kindergarten! We often have parents that are mad at their child's Kindergarten teacher because "the teacher never taught my child how to sequence the letters". The problem, is that the bad habits usually developed before Kindergarten.

Developmentally, most children have the fine and visual motor skills to learn to write at age six, when most older adults learned to write when they were children. Today, most children learn handwriting before Kindergarten, and in Kindergarten, the handwriting curriculum is fast paced. The good news, is that often a child CAN learn correct sequencing of letters at the Kindergarten age. The bad news is that after the middle of first grade (often younger for gifted students), most children cannot change the sequencing of their letters! At The Handwriting Clinic, we have little luck changing the older child's sequencing of print, but we CAN rapidly change legibility, letter reversals, and work on speed and memory skills. We have excellent results in helping the 1st graders write within handwriting lines, with visual memory of the letters. For 2nd grade and above, we have some special techniques that are quick and easy, to learn even better legibility. But, we cannot change the sequencing of the bottom to top patterns, clockwise circles, or other "funny" ways of letter formation. This is why we love to get students referred to us in preschool through Kindergarten! We can usually change the legibility of the older student quickly, but often have to accept that the letters may be formed bottom to top, or in the wrong sequence. The good news, is that while it is not preferable to write letters in funny sequences, the kids can still have nice legibility, fast handwriting, and do fine. But, it is important for these children to learn cursive in the CORRECT sequence - so our cursive class would be important for these children when they begin learning cursive in 2nd grade or 3rd grade. Students in private schools usually learn cursive in 2nd grade. In public schools, cursive is usually introduced at the end of 2nd grade, forgotten over the summer, and then learned in the fall of the 3rd grade year. Again, there is very little time devoted to learning cursive and most children learn cursive through just practicing copying letters in a workbook with minimal instruction. We love to see these kids the summer before the 3rd grade year, or during the Fall semester of the 3rd grade year!

LOOK AT THE EXAMPLES ON THE NEXT PAGE - LEGIBILITY CAN CHANGE!!

BEFORE AND AFTER SAMPLES

June 19 – 28, 2006

1 hour/day Monday – Thursday for 2 weeks

Pre-test
a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S
L m N o P q r s t u v w x y z

BEFORE: 6-19-06

1st grader

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S
T U V W X Y Z

AFTER: 6-29-06

A

B = before

A = after

a b c d e f g h i j k l m o p q r s t u v w
x y z

2nd grader

B

The quick brown fox
jumped over the lazy dogs

A

p b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

1st grader

B

a b c d e f g h i j k l m o p q r s t u v w
x y z

A

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S
a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z

1st grader

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R
S T U V W X Y Z

A

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P
Q R S T U V W X Y Z
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

B

BEFORE 6-19-06

2nd grader

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p
q r s t u v w x y z

A