FUN with Handwriting

ACTIVITY K

Sand Shapes

Grades K–3

Purpose:

Explore letter shape through touch

Materials:

52 five-inch squares of cardboard or poster board; glue; fine, dry sand

Write one uppercase or lowercase letter (manuscript or cursive) on each cardboard square. Distribute the squares to students. Ask them to trace the letterforms with glue and sprinkle sand over the wet glue. Place the squares on a flat surface and allow them to dry thoroughly. Shake off the loose sand.

Suggest that students trace the sand letters with their fingers as they are learning to write letterforms. If needed, guide younger students' fingers along the sand letters in the correct stroke sequence. For additional practice, ask individual students to alternately trace a sand letter and write the letter. Challenge students to close their eyes and identify letters by touch only.

Variation:

Make tactile letter cards with salt, seeds, macaroni, buttons, or other materials. Try matching the materials to the letters: corn kernels for c, for example.

Zaner-Bloser Handwriting is a daily print and digital handwriting curricula that teches K–6 students to write fluently and confidently. Learn more about Zaner-Bloser's proven, research based method and consistent, systematic instruction at zaner-bloser.com

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