Writing is a hugely important life skill. Before your kids begin expressing their ideas, however, they'll need to work on penmanship. This simple lesson helps students with the basics of writing the letters of the alphabet.

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to identify and trace letters of the alphabet in the correct format.

Materials and Preparation

- Red and blue lined manuscript sheets with large traceable letters
- Sheet protectors
- Permanent marker
- Dry erase markers
- Whiteboard erasers

Key Terms:

- upper case letters
- lower case letters
- tracing

Lesson

Introduction (5 minutes)

- Tell students that today, they will be learning about tracing letters of the alphabet.
- Show them the sheet protectors holding the red and blue lined manuscript sheets.
- Tell them that they will be using markers to trace the letters.
Explicit Instruction/Teacher Modeling *(15 minutes)*

- Pin the sheet protector on an easel and show your students how to trace each letter.
- Make sure that each letter has arrows and corresponding number to show the order of tracing each letter.
- Bring this order to the attention of the students and remind them to follow the directions of the arrows and the numbers in ascending order.
- Trace all the letters.
- Show them how to erase and fix any error they might make while tracing.

Guided Practice/Interactive Modeling *(10 minutes)*

- Ask a few students to come to the easel and try to trace a letter by following your directions.
- Assist them in tracing the letters.
- Help them to fix any errors they might make.
- Ensure that they follow the order of arrows and numbers while tracing the letters.

Independent Working Time *(10 minutes)*

- Once a few students have tried tracing letters and the others have taken a look how it works, your students might want to try it on their own.
- Make sure that you have enough sets made ahead of time before you start the lesson.
- Send each student back to their work area with a sheet, dry erase marker, and eraser.
- Once they start working on their own, walk around to observe and assist them when need arises.
- As they work on their own, ensure that they are following the order of numbers and direction of arrows.

Get more lesson plans at [www.education.com/lesson-plans/](http://www.education.com/lesson-plans/)
Extend

Differentiation

- **Enrichment** For advanced students, you may want to have them trace words or even short sentences.
- **Support** For students who need help to do this activity, focus on a few letters at a time. Use only letters with straight lines at one time. Use letters with curved lines at another time.

Related Books and/or Media

- **GAME:** Uppercase Letters Photoshoot

Review

Assessment  *(5 minutes)*

- Observe as the students work on their own.
- Take notes as you observe to see if the activity is being done easily or the students are having difficulty.
- Check to see if you need to increase or decrease the level of difficulty depending on your students' behavior.

Review and Closing  *(5 minutes)*

- At the end of the activity, call the students together in one group for discussion.
- Ask questions to see if the students remembered your directions about following the arrows and the numbers while tracing.