



Kinetic Letters

making hand-writing easy for everyone

Why we do it?

Research has proven that handwriting is a complex skill and that many children have difficulty because they have not developed the necessary physical skills and hand eye co-ordination to be able to learn to write easily.

Key Principles behind Kinetic Letters

- Physical strength underpins handwriting, as poor handwriting may be the result of poor strength.
- Children are not expected to do anything unless they are developmentally ready.
- The different components of writing are mastered individually before being used in combination.

Key Principles behind Kinetic Letters cont.

- Letters are learnt as movements not as visual shapes and movement remains central to developing flow and fluency.
- Handwriting is made easier using a pen and white board.
- Lying on the floor to write enables the hand to be held in the correct position for writing.

Physical strength underpins handwriting

We often hear adults say:

"They're always wriggling around, they just can't sit still."

"You'd think sitting on a chair without falling off it couldn't be that difficult!..."

These are due to the fact that children have not developed shoulder and pelvic girdle strength so they cannot hold a pencil effectively or comfortably for a long time.

How we build our Physical Strength

Ask your child what these
different positions look like?

Lizard

Gorilla

Meerkat

Stone Lion

Penguin

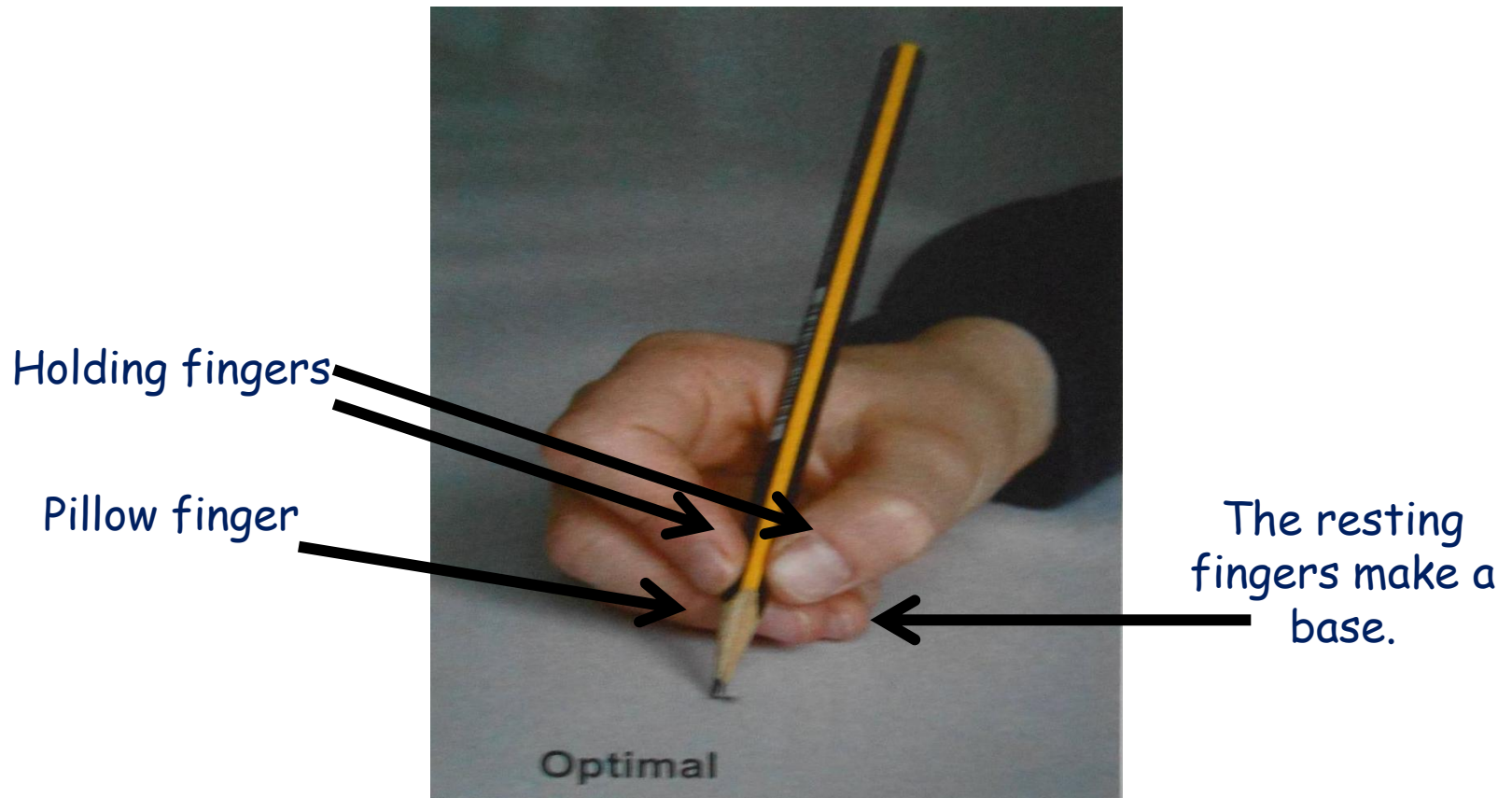
What next...

Once physical strength is developing and children understand how and why to continue to develop this, we begin to teach that holding the pencil correctly is important. It is important to have ultimate pencil hold as it allows the writer to write at a good pace for long periods of time without pain or discomfort.

Therefore writing becomes enjoyable!!!!

Children's pencil checks

The 3 friends work the pencil



Children's pencil checks cont.

1. Are my holding fingers level with each other?
2. Can I see a little colour between my holding fingers?
 3. Is my pillow finger underneath?
 4. Is my pencil laying across my hand?

Move it, Say it, Write it approach

Letters are learnt using movements of the whole body, arm or hand. These underpin all stages of learning the letter shapes.

Letter families provide explanations for letter formation, which we will now explain with the help of Brave and Scared Monkey.

Hello Monkeys

Letter families are introduced by the help of the two monkeys who go from their individual branches to make the correspondingly appropriate height of letters.



This is Brave Monkey.
He sits at the very
top of the tree.



This is Scared Monkey.
He sits on the lower
branch of the tree.

Where the monkeys live



The letter families explained

Letters are grouped into six letter families according to their common starting move.

- Jumper h m n r b p down, bump, back up.

- Abracadabra c a o d g q s Pull in (all start with c).

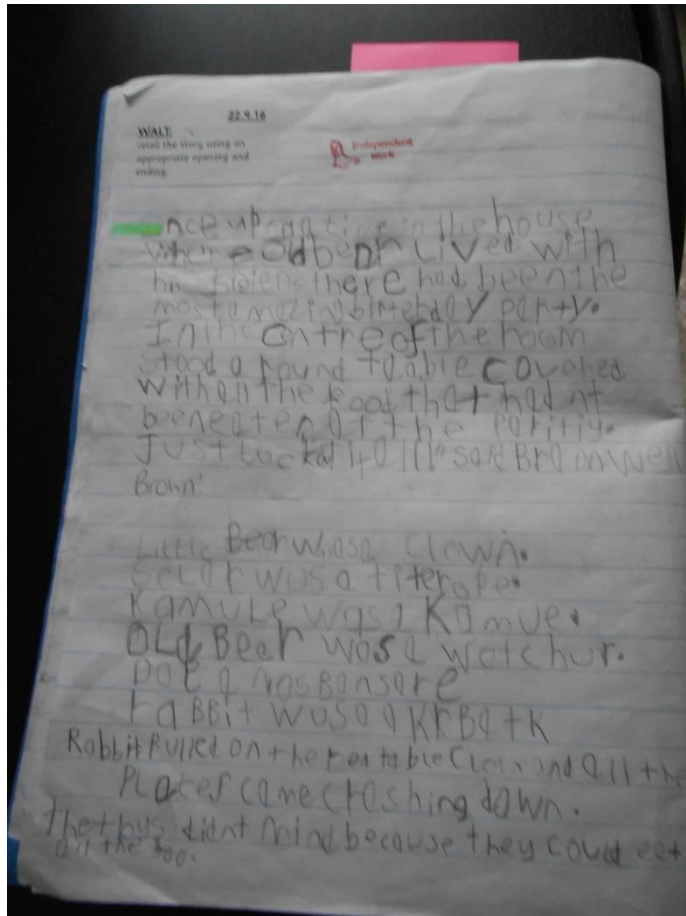
- Squirter e In the middle.

- Window l i t u down, bump.

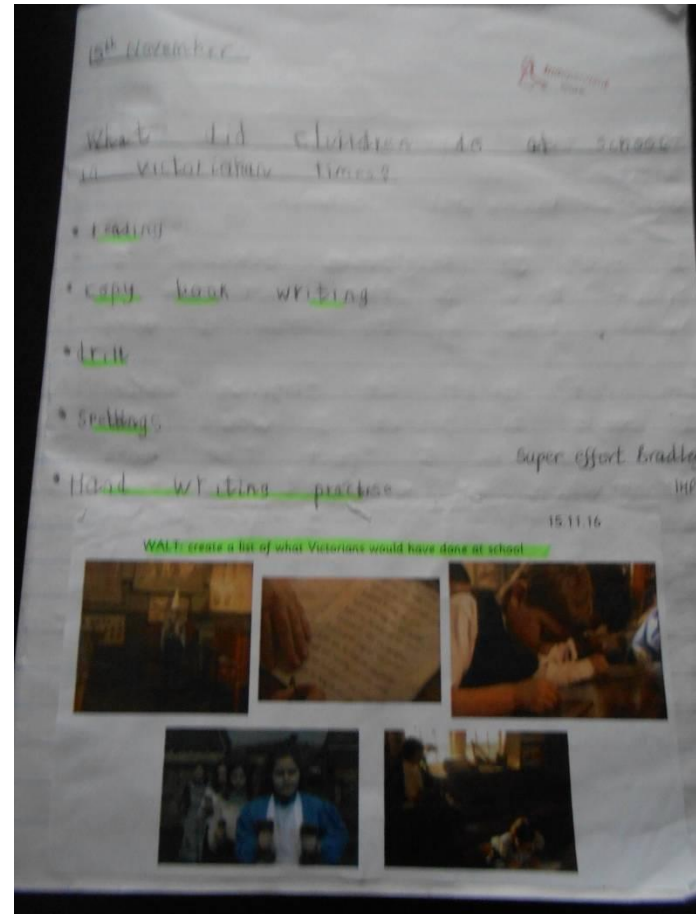
- Fisher g j y f pull around to make a tail.

- Slider v w x z k slide down.

The impact so far



Then



Now

Let's see it in action..

We would now like to give you the opportunity to go and watch a Kinetic letters handwriting session within your child's class. If you have more than 1 child across R, 1 and 2 then please feel free to pop between the classrooms or choose 1 to stay in as we all teach to the same approach.

At the end of the session please feel free to pop back to the hall for a cup of tea/coffee with Mrs Rhodes and Miss Holden, any questions you have can be answered during this time.