



Handwriting

Office of Curriculum and Instruction

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Rationale

- New Writing Foundations Standards added to the 2016 ELA Standards.
- Existing textbook and supplemental resources do not include teaching handwriting skills.



2016 ELA Standards

- ▶ Writing Foundations Strand was added to K-5 ELA Standards.
- ▶ Sound-letter basics and Handwriting Cluster added.
- ▶ Manuscript and Cursive standards added.



Two types of Writing

- Manuscript

- Writing that consists of un-joined letters made with lines and circles. Often taught at the elementary level.

- Grades K-2

- Cursive

- Writing with strokes of successive characters joined together.

- Grades 3-5

Arizona English Language Arts Standards
Vertical Articulation – Writing Foundation Skills Standard 1

K.WF.1	Demonstrate and apply handwriting skills. a. Match upper and lower case manuscript letters. b. Write upper and lower manuscript letters, with reference to a model. c. Write left to right using appropriate spacing between words.
1.WF.1	Demonstrate and apply handwriting skills. a. Write upper and lower case manuscript alphabet from memory using correct letter formation. b. Write the common grapheme (letter or letter group) for each phoneme. c. Write with appropriate spacing between letters and words.
2.WF.1	Demonstrate and apply handwriting skills. a. Write legibly in manuscript using correct letter formation. b. Transcribe ideas in manuscript with automaticity and proper spacing.
3.WF.1	Demonstrate and apply handwriting skills. a. Read and write cursive letters, upper and lower case. b. Transcribe ideas legibly in cursive and manuscript, with appropriate spacing and indentation.
4.WF.1	Demonstrate and apply handwriting skills. a. Read and write cursive letters, upper and lower case. b. Transcribe ideas legibly and fluently with appropriate spacing and indentation.
5.WF.1	Demonstrate and apply handwriting skills. a. Read and write cursive letters, upper and lower case. b. Transcribe ideas legibly and fluently with appropriate spacing and indentation.



Handwriting Committee Program Selection

- The Handwriting without Tears program aligns to the Writing Foundational Skills. The program includes both manuscript and cursive writing.
 - The program has both an English and Spanish version. The Spanish version was approved by Dual Language teachers who were part of the committee.
 - The Language Acquisition Department also reviewed the Spanish resources.
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