

Using Cursive Today



Hawaii Hawaii Hawaii
dolphin dolphin dolphin
flower flower flower
surf surf surf surf
mountain mountain mountain
hike hike hike hike

Hi Aunt Kate,
We are having a lot of
fun in Hawaii! Today
we hiked up a mountain
and saw a tall waterfall.
Tomorrow we will swim
with dolphins!
Wish you were here,
Belinda

Aunt Kate
897
Houston



Using Cursive Today



Authors

Stephanie Bernard

Amber Goff



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Corinne Burton, M.A.Ed., *President*; Emily R. Smith, M.A.Ed., *Content Director*; Jennifer Wilson, *Editor*;
Lee Aucoin, *Senior Multimedia Designer*; Don Tran, *Production Artist*

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Shell Education

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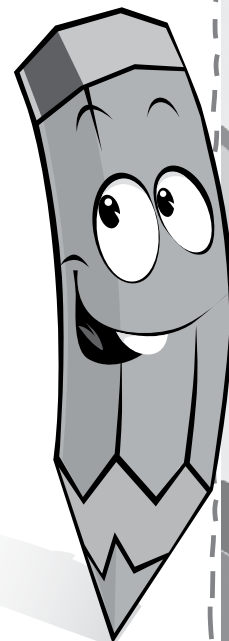
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cursive in the classroom

With the return of cursive writing in state standards and the increased focus to get students college and career ready, now is the perfect time to teach students this beautiful style of writing.

—Kate Dicamillo

Imagine a classroom where students can express themselves through the use of their hands and their pencils. Each student's individual thoughts on a page are written in his or her own unique style. Cursive writing provides just that. With cursive writing, students are able to play around with their writing styles and are able to connect ideas together as they connect individual letters to one another.

With this resource, students will first learn how to write letters and common letter combinations in a modern cursive style. Then, they will build upon this skill by taking what they learn and applying it to real-world connections. It is important for students to apply their understanding of cursive in ways that will help them be successful in life. The themes addressed in the Practicing Cursive section of the book include learning about where and how people vacation, understanding why holidays are celebrated, studying what types of currencies there are in the world, thinking about why pen pals are good and helpful to have, and considering how thankful people should be for community heroes.

Within each thematic unit, students will use their cursive writing abilities to:

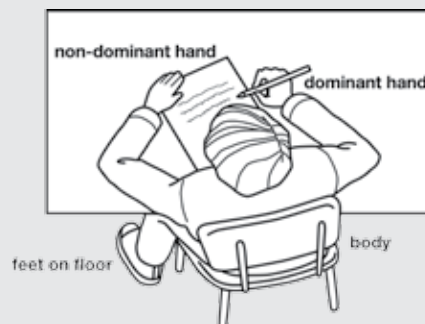
- ☆ read informational and real-world connection texts
- ☆ answer text-dependent questions
- ☆ complete graphic organizers
- ☆ solve puzzles and riddles
- ☆ design works of art
- ☆ create real-world connection pieces

Students will enjoy learning and practicing this beautiful style of writing through the fun and engaging thematic units. The most important thing to remember as you work through this book is that each student is unique and so are their ideas and styles. Encourage students to express themselves through their writing today for a brighter tomorrow.

How to Use This Book

Get Prepared!

Prior to implementing the activity pages, teach students the proper way to place their bodies and their papers when writing in cursive. You may also want to distribute page 78 to students. They can reference this page as they learn and practice the various letters.



Pages 8–33 include practice pages for all of the letters in the alphabet. Each page offers students the opportunity to trace and write the targeted letter multiple times. Students will then use their knowledge of the targeted letter to complete words.



Pages 34–43 include practice pages for letter combinations, including the most common blends and digraphs. Since letter connectivity can be challenging for students, be sure to have them practice before moving to the Practicing Cursive section.



How to Use This Book (cont.)

Practicing cursive

Once students have learned how to write letters and letter combinations in cursive, have them complete the themed activity sheets (pages 45–74). In each section, all of the pages lead up to the final page where students create a real-life connection piece. (Answer keys for the appropriate pages can be found in Appendix A.) Each theme includes the following pages:

Introduction

Allows students to read a brief introductory text (in cursive) about each theme. Students read the information and then answer questions in cursive writing.

Graphic Organizer

Students continue practicing their cursive by writing words and sentences that are associated with each theme.

Puzzle

To make learning even more enjoyable, students complete a puzzle associated with each theme.

Artwork

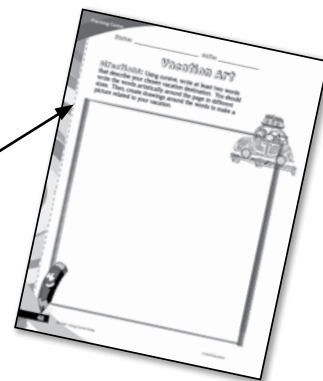
Students use creative thinking skills to bring cursive writing and art together when creating masterpieces.

Reading

This provides opportunities for students to interact with cursive in real-world situations. After reading information related to the theme, students answer text-dependent questions.

Real-World Connection

Students put their mastery of cursive to use and create real-world pieces such as friendly letters, postcards, and check writing.

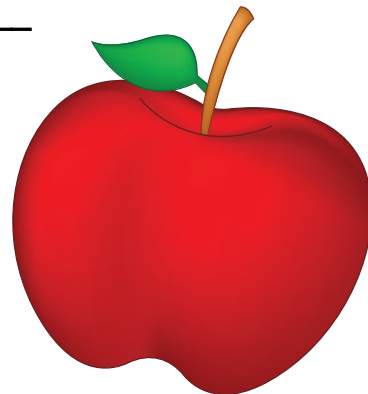


Learning cursive



Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Trace each letter. Then, write your own to fill the lines.



A a

a a a a a

a a a a a

Directions: Trace each letter. Then, write each missing letter.

April

pril

art

rt

apple

pple

aerial

eri l