

Learning Joined writing

Preparation:	3 Friends Pencil Hold Writing position (supported forearm) Position of work (sloped uphill/downhill)
The 7 Fluency Targets that prepare for Joining	Use the strong Animal Positions Correct formation of unjoined letters Correct spacing within/between words Know all the Letter Families by heart

The Joining programme

- Letters are either Joiners or Breakers (so that joined writing is legible and fast).
(Breakers are b f g j p s x y and q z r. The rest are Joiners.)
- There are 3 types of letter-joins:
 - Flick-joins (to join from letters that have a Flick-finish e.g. h).
 - Ground-joins (to join from letters that finish on the Ground-line e.g. c).
 - Top-joins (to join from letters that finish at the top of it e.g. w).
- Each weekly focus uses one of the joins with two specific Letter Families:
e.g. 'Flick-joins from Window Cleaner letters (i, t, l, u) into Jumper letters (h, n, m, r, b, p)'
- Pupils work through 3 levels of Targets:
 1. Join letters into pairs, e.g. in
 2. Join pairs into words, e.g. tin
 3. Join words into sentences, e.g. Put it in a tin.
- For each target, the way to practise it is the same, whether it is a pair, word or sentence:
 - Prepare- Write it *unjoined* (to rehearse letter formation and letter snuggling).
 - Overwrite- Write over the top of these prepared letters several times (to practise movement).
 - Freewrite- Write the joined letters independently (to test if you can, but if not- return to Prepare-Overwrite-Freewrite and try again).

TOP TIP: for Automaticity, repeat Prepare-Overwrite-Freewrite many times!