



William Murdoch Primary School

Pencil Control and Letter Formation



The following booklet has a range of different activities for pupils that require extra support with pencil control, letter formation and basic handwriting. This booklet starts with the very basic pencil control movements and builds up therefore pupils will not need to complete the whole booklet and may not necessarily need to start from the very beginning but can complete the activities that they require. It is best for children to complete this booklet using a pencil.

We understand that not all parents will be able to print off pages for pupils to complete so we have also included a list of activities that you can do without printing worksheets that will support pupils' pencil control and handwriting.

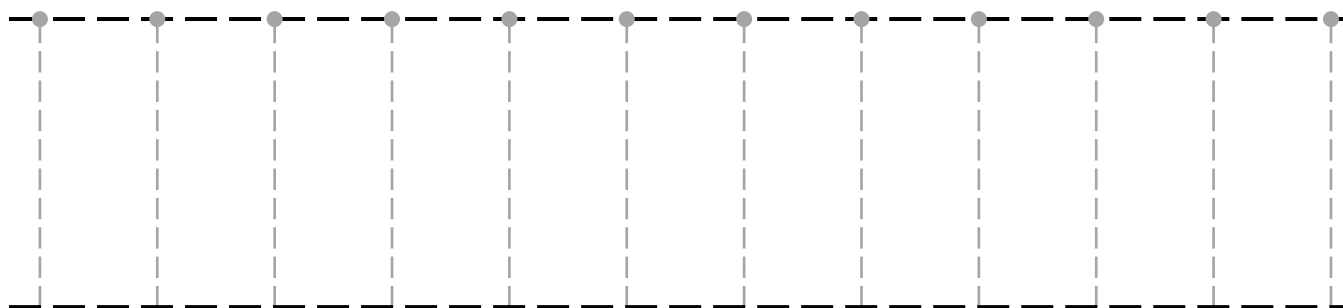
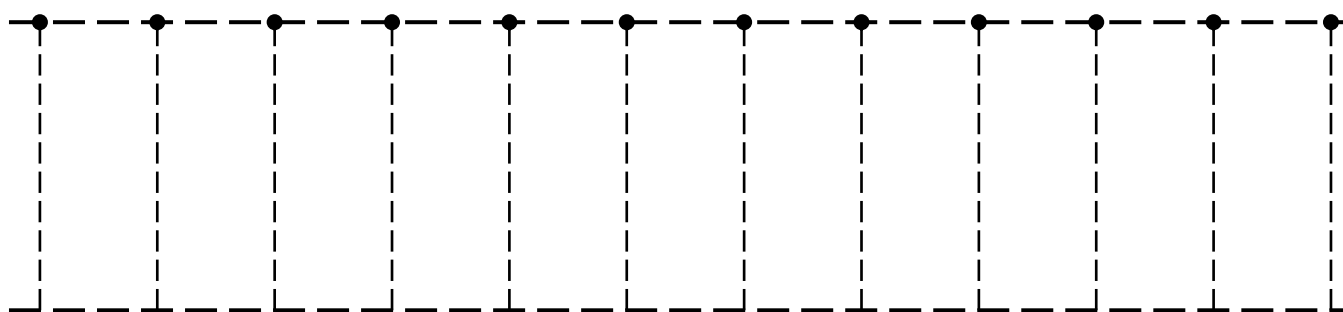
Other Activities to do at home

- **Tracing** - Pupils can trace simple line drawings to help them gain better pencil control. You can usually trace onto plain white paper if the ink below is fairly dark. However, if this is proving to be difficult, white greaseproof paper works as tracing paper very well. Children can also use a coloured pencil just to go over lines already drawn without the need to trace.
- **Dot to Dot** - this fun activity requires children to control the lines they create from one dot to another. This also helps them with their counting skills at the same time.
- **Guess the letter** - ask children to use their fingers to draw the shape of a letter onto your back and the aim is to guess the letter. Take it in turns as guessing the letter requires children to understand letter formation too.
- **Writing in sand** - Place sand in a small tray or box and ask children to write out letters or words. To start again simply shake the box or tray to wipe away the letters or words created.
- **Colouring** - This may not always seem like an educational activity but colouring is a brilliant activity for gaining better pencil control Children must try and stay in the lines as best as possible.

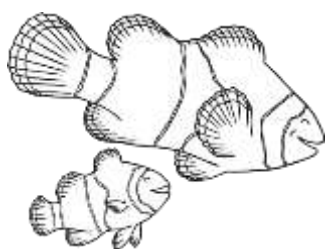
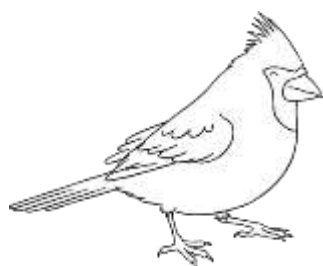
Any activity that focuses on strengthening muscles in the hand will also improve handwriting and pencil control. Examples of some of the activities are, throwing and catching, threading beads through a string and picking up small objects either using their fingers or tweezers.

Some children have a good understanding of letter formation but require support to make their handwriting more legible and neater. For those pupils, as much practise as possible is best. At the end of this booklet there are blank handwriting sheets that they can use to practise. Alternatively, they can use normal lined paper but to ensure their letters are the correct size highlight half of the line so they can see where lower case letters should sit.

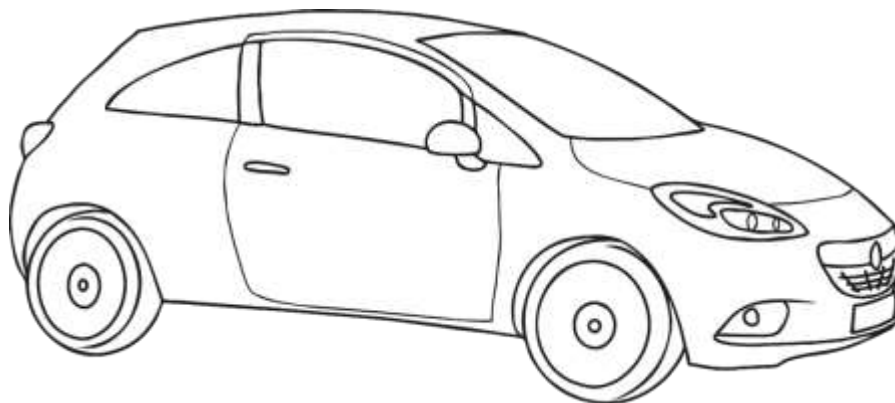
Trace the dotted lines from top to bottom.



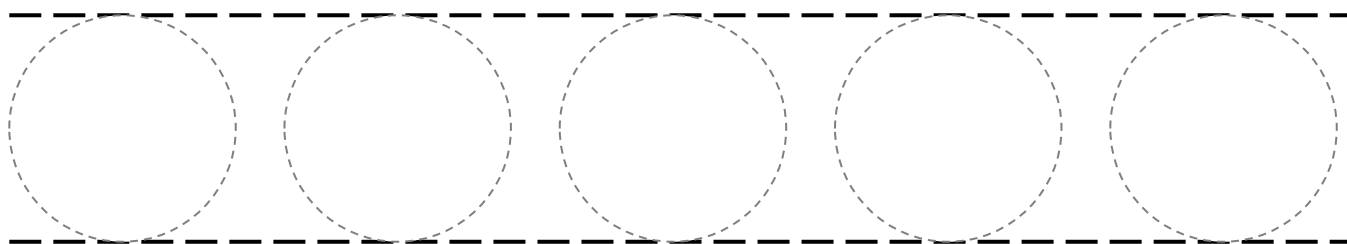
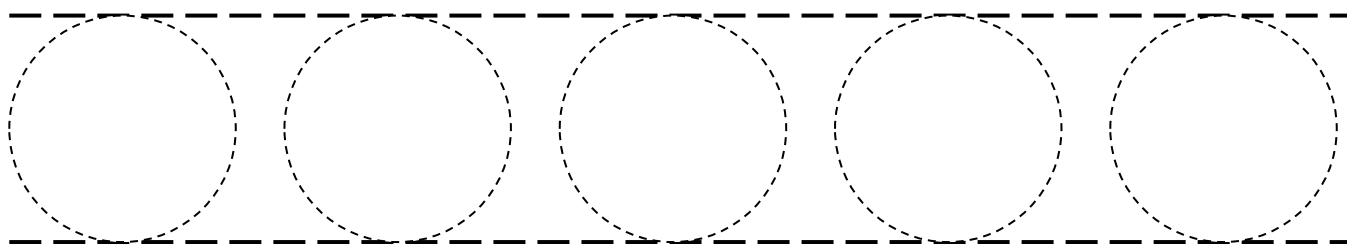
Trace the lines to help the animals get home.



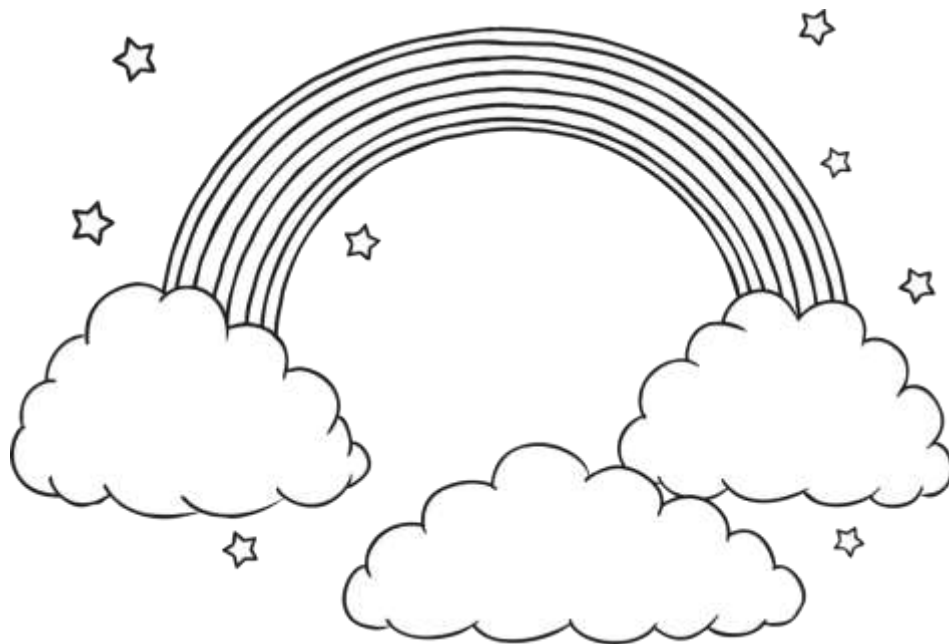
Trace the dotted lines from left to right.



Trace the dotted lines.



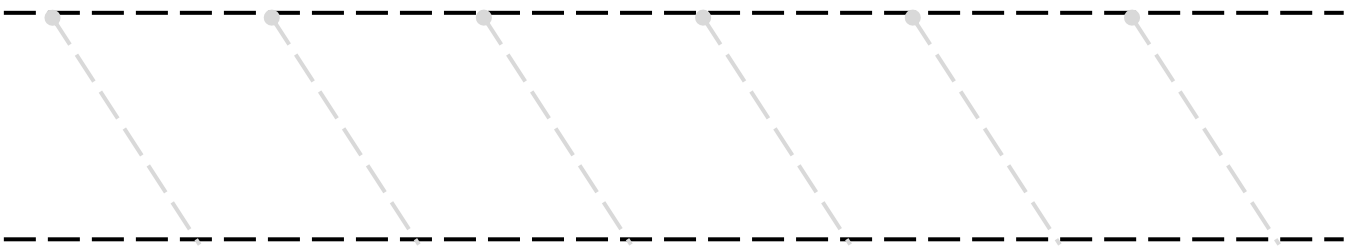
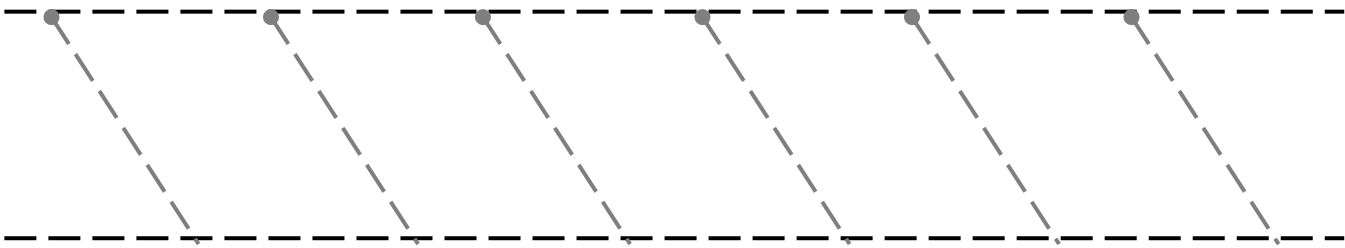
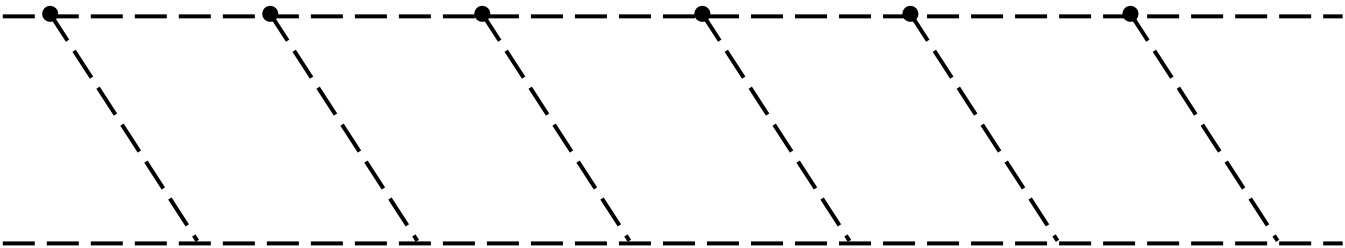
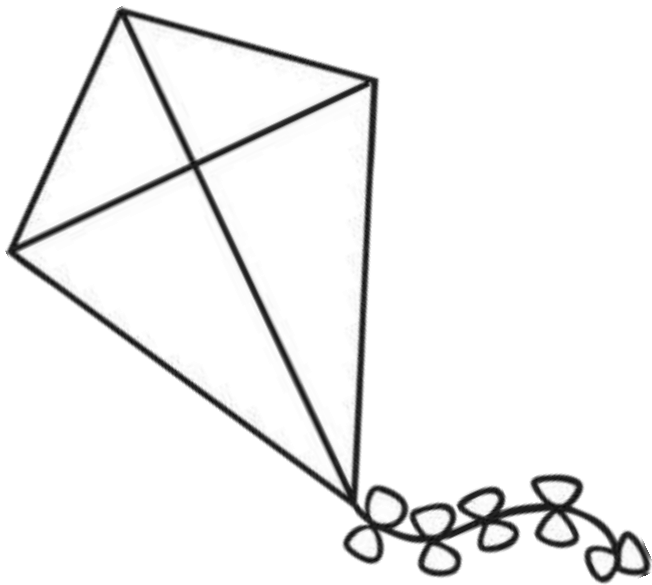
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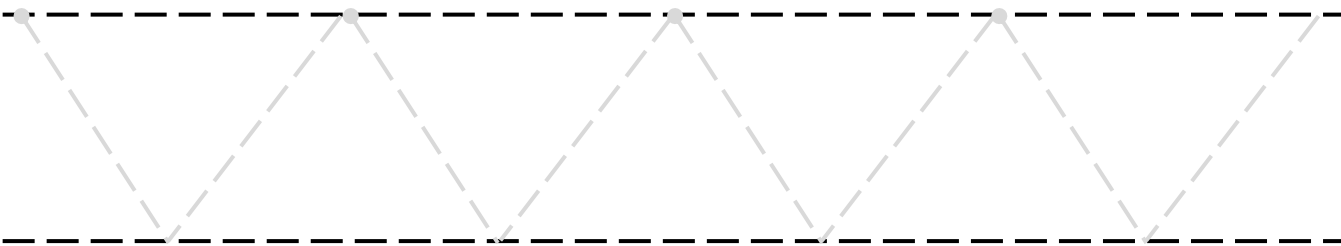
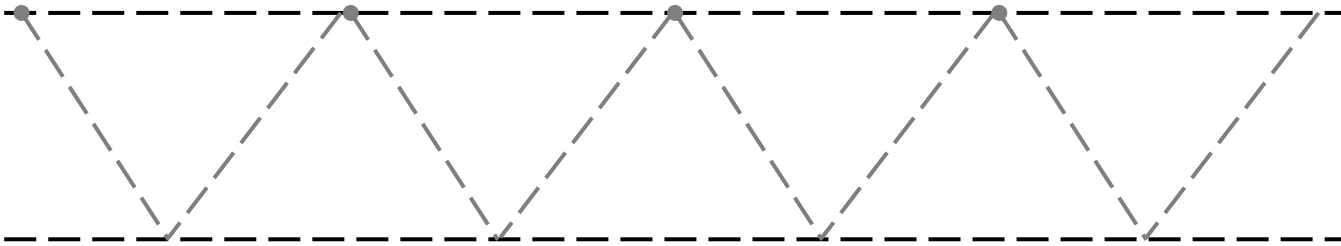
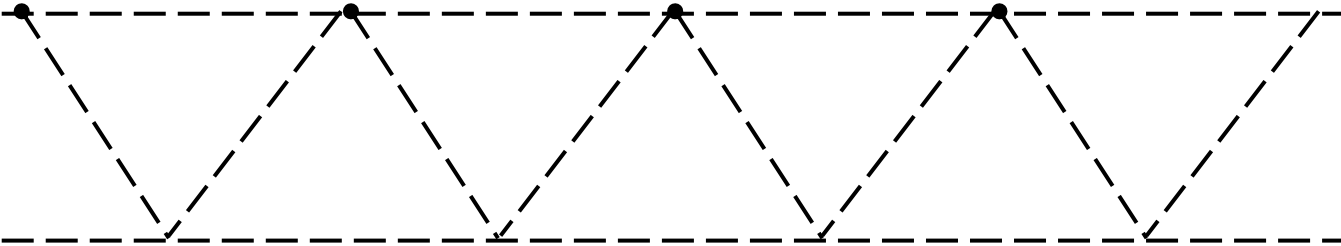
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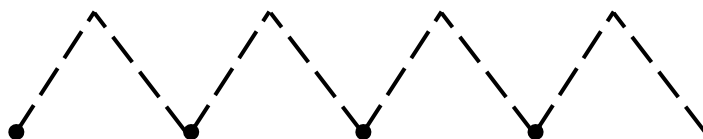
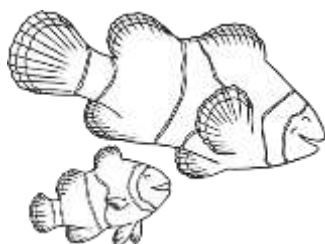
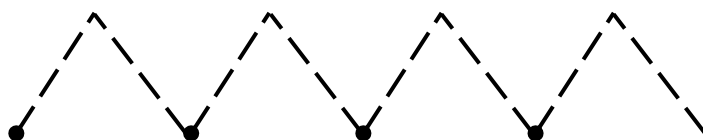
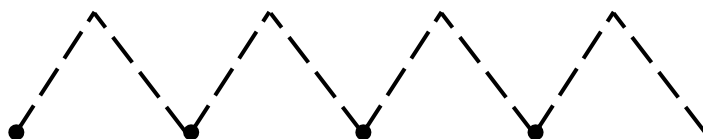
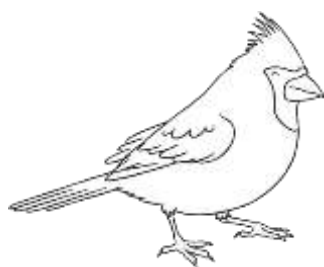
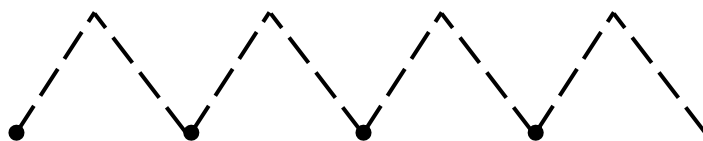
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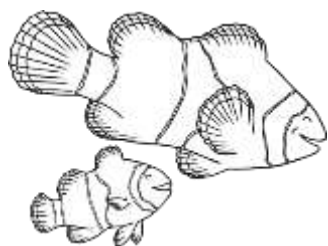
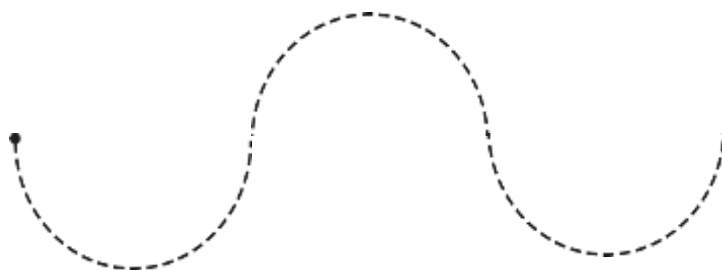
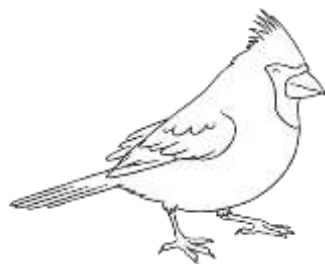
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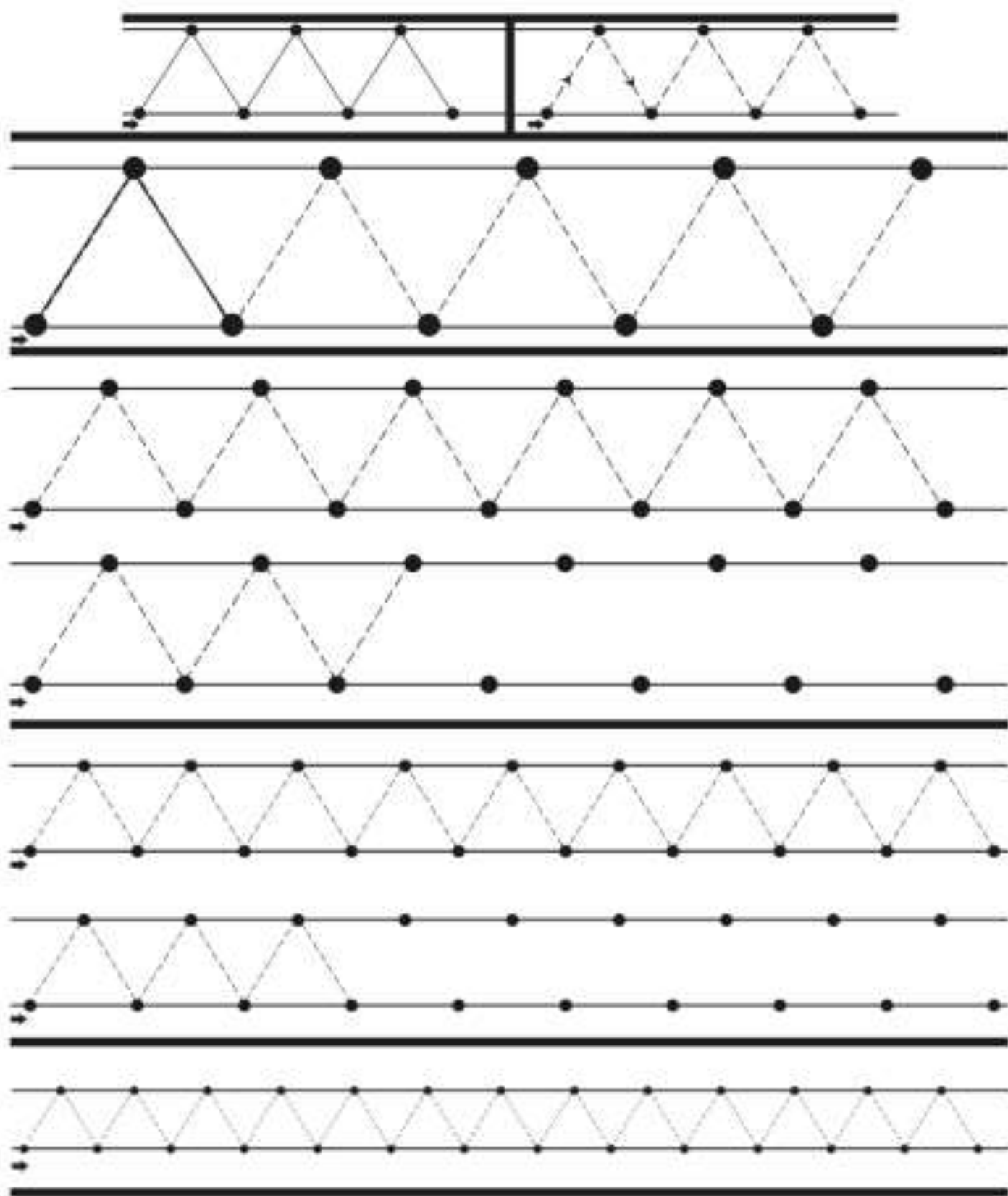


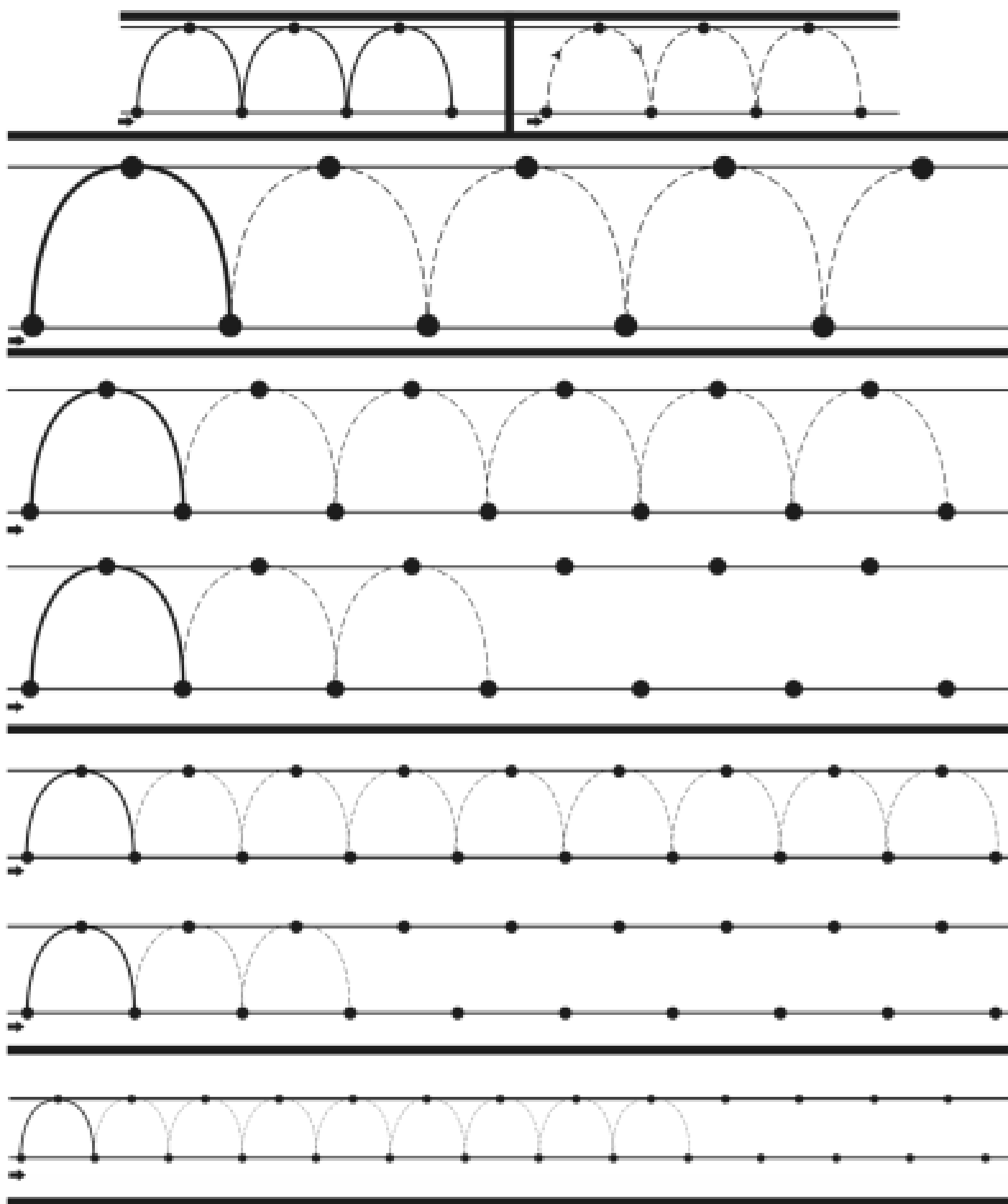
Trace the lines to help the animals get home.

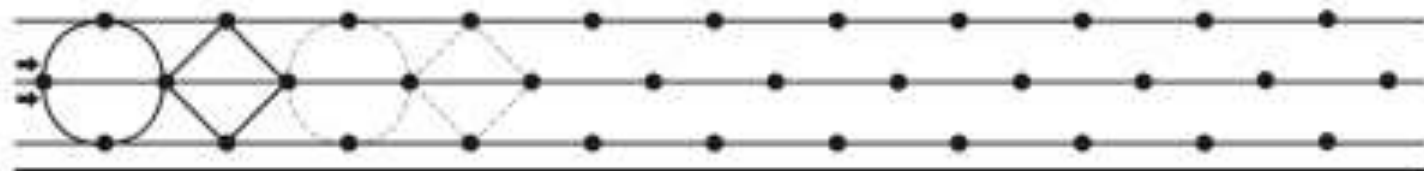
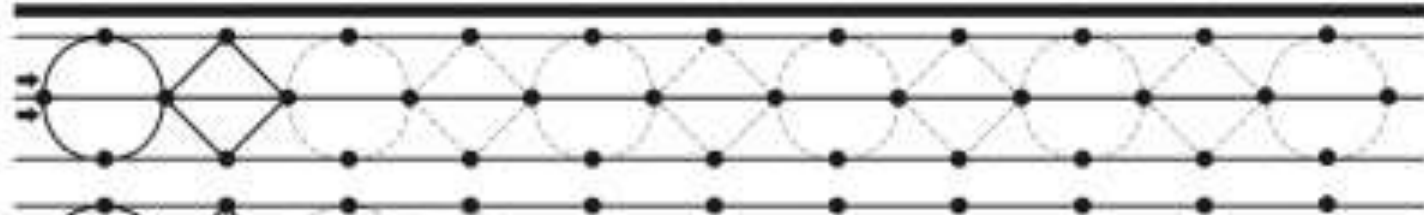
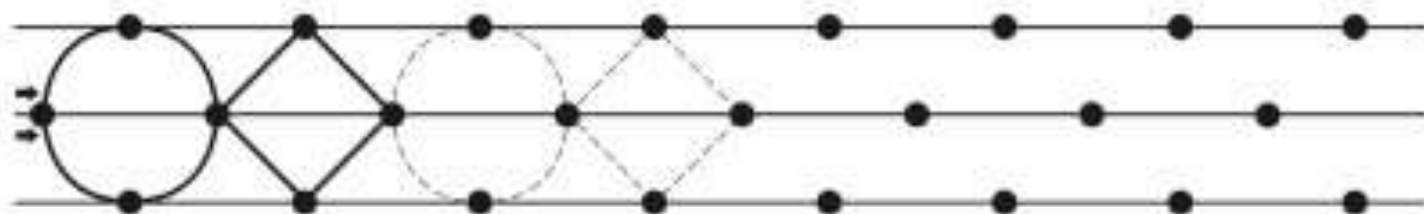
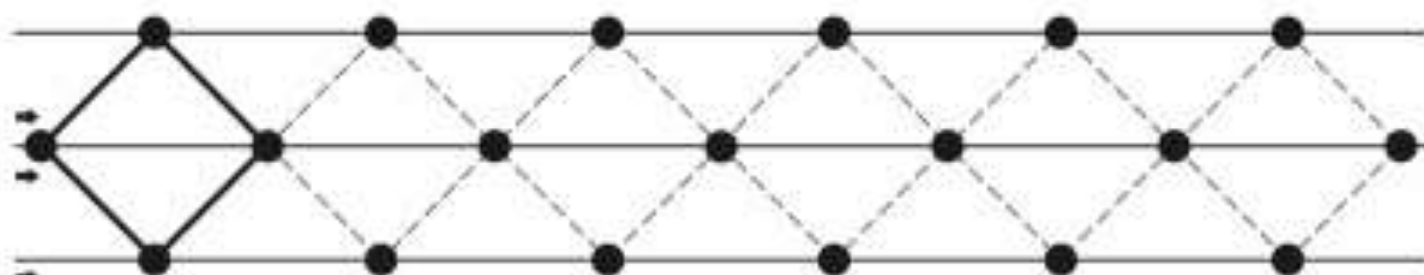
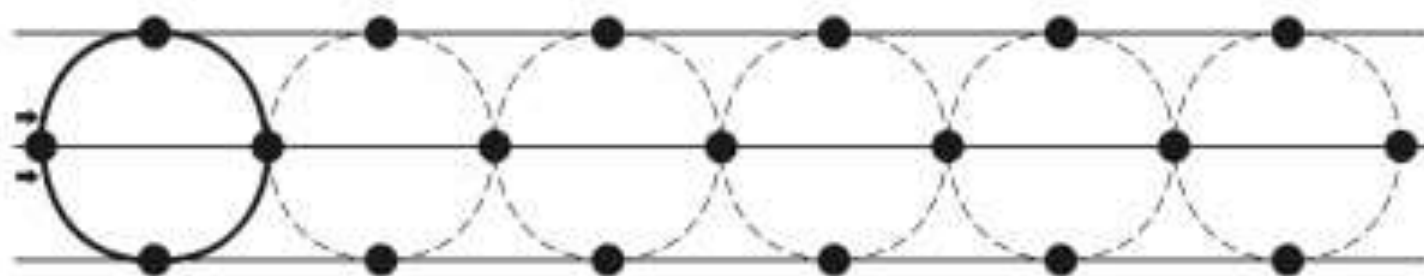
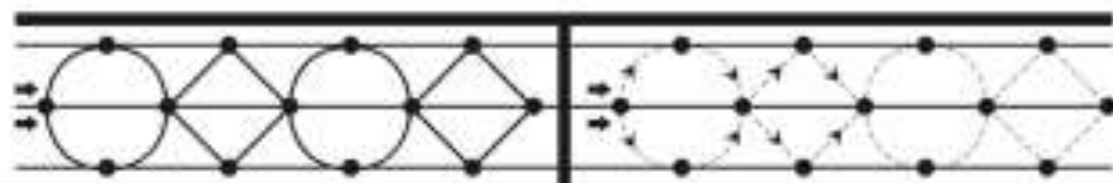


Trace the lines to help the animals get home.









Letter Formation Practice Sheet

a b c d e f g h i

j k l m n o p q r

s t u v w x y z

Let's try and write the letters making sure they are the correct size.

a b c d e f g h i j
k l m n o p q r s t
u v w x y z

a b c d e f g h i j
k l m n o p q r s t
u v w x y z

Now it's time to practise your joined up handwriting. Remember to look carefully at the size of each letter

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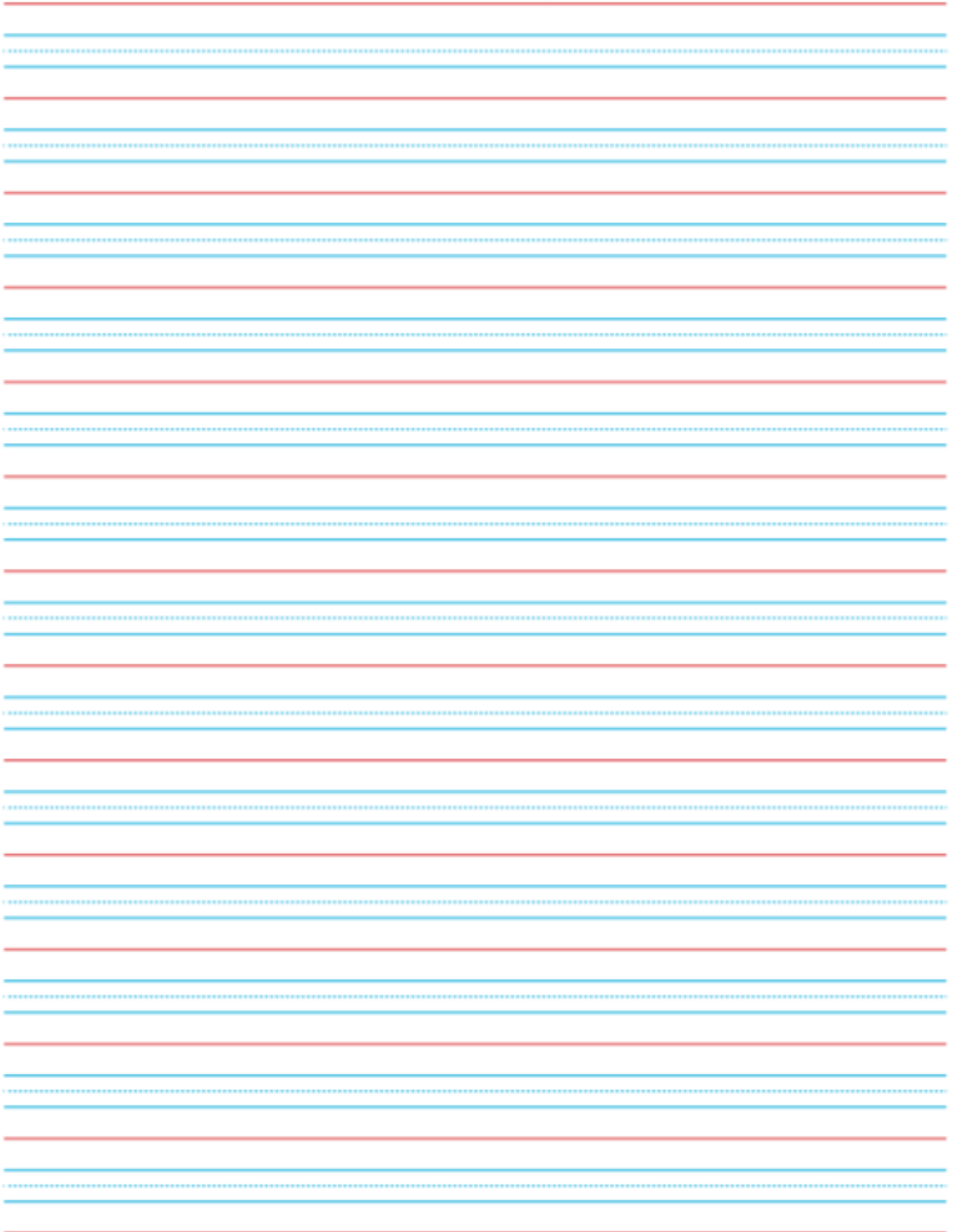
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Handwriting Lines



A series of horizontal lines for handwriting practice. Each set consists of a solid red top line, a dashed blue middle line, and a solid blue bottom line. There are 10 such sets of lines on the page.

Handwriting Lines

Handwriting practice lines consisting of multiple sets of three horizontal lines (top blue, middle red, bottom blue) for letter formation. Each set includes a dashed midline for letter height guidance.