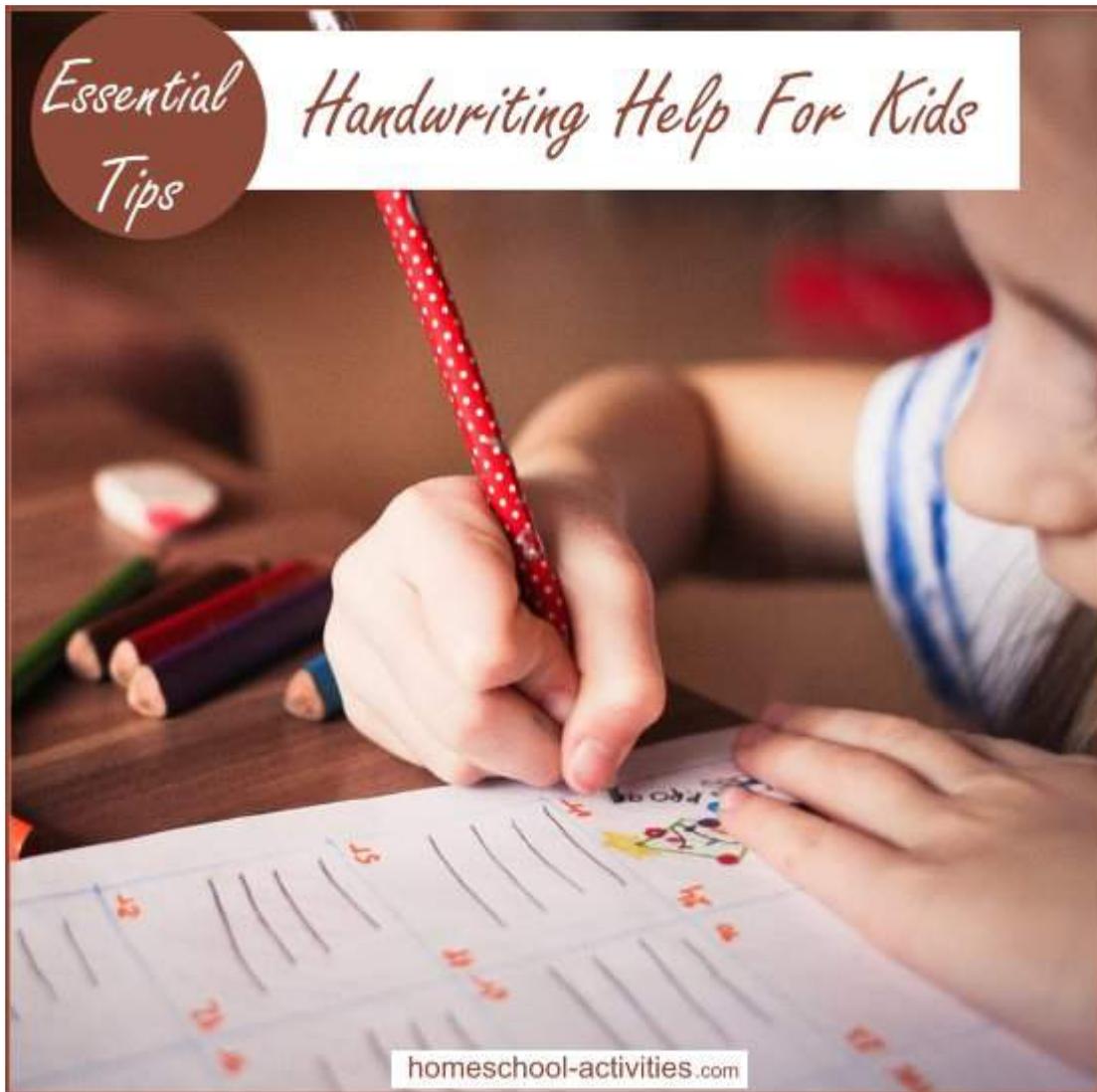


**ESSENTIAL TIPS:
TEACHING YOUR CHILD TO WRITE**



This is a post by Ange in my [Courageous Homeschooling Facebook](#) group. It is the best explanation I have ever seen of how to teach your child to write.

And since it's written by a homeschooling parent it's advice you can trust.

Thank you so much Ange for allowing me to share this.

Here are some things/tips I've read and learned about while teaching my own son to write...

1. First focus on teaching letter formation, then focus on letter sizing and then spacing.

2. For letter formation, you can have your child practise writing letters with their finger in sand, shaving foam, chocolate...fun stuff basically! And there are also apps for handwriting you can get on your phone or tablet they can use to practise their letter formation using their finger.

3. Don't teach letters in order from A-Z, rather teach letters that have a similar structure one at a time to build confidence. For example, you might teach 'l' and then 't' because they are simple and start at the same place. Then you might teach 'c', and 'o'. After that maybe 'a', 'd' and then 'g' because the first part of forming the letter is similar.

4. Once you teach proper pencil grip you can have your child practise their letters by tracing over letters in a workbook or a write and wipe book. These are often available at supermarkets.

5. You could then move on to writing letters independently in a lined book or on lined paper. I taught my son with the three line method where there's the top line is the 'sky', the second line is the 'fence' and the third line is the 'ground.' I also did up a sheet on the computer and made the sky blue, the fence brown and the ground green. So a tall letter like 'b' would start by falling from the sky all the way to the ground, and then go back up and hit the fence and curve back around and down to the ground. A letter like lowercase 'g' would have a 'root' and go into the ground. Hope that makes sense!

6. You might want to have your child pick which letter they would like to practise from a tub of cut up letters. Then you might write words using the letters they have covered. Write some funny sentence, stuff like that.

7. And then you might want your child do copy work and copy some favorite or interesting sentences or passages from books.

8. Be patient and understand that neat handwriting takes time to develop, especially in boys. Hope that helps! ~ Ange xxx