

# Handwriting Problems Occur In Few Letters With Children

By DAVID NYDICK  
UPI Education Specialist  
Research shows that children's problems in handwriting usually occur with a few letters rather than many letters.  
Parents can help by encouraging their children to practice. Don't make a big issue of handwriting but do make your child aware of its importance.

Q. My third grade child is learning regular writing and is having difficulty. His work is not neat and his letter formation is poor. How can I help him?  
A. The first step is to talk with the teacher. If your child has poor coordination and has not developed the necessary muscular control, it would be

best to delay changing to cursive (regular) writing. If this is not the case, there are three major things which must be learned. In cursive writing the letters are slanted as is the paper. There are various new letter forms which must be learned. In addition, the child must learn to make connecting strokes between letters.

You should find out the letter forms which are being taught in school. These vary slightly, and you do not want to confuse the child. A reasonable amount of practice is essential. Perhaps you could encourage the writing of notes and letters to friends and relatives. Also remember that manuscript (printing) writing is a useful form and should be maintained.

Q. My son, John, is in the second grade. He still prints instead of writing. When should he learn to use regular writing?  
A. Cursive (regular) writing is generally introduced in the third grade. Some schools may start at the end of the second

grade while others may wait until the intermediate grades. It is not advisable to rush the change from manuscript (printing). Some of the indications that a child is ready to make the change are: His own desire to change—his ability to print all the letters properly; his ability to read cursive writing; his ability to copy printing properly and with reasonable speed. Usually a child has acquired the muscular control to make the change in about the third grade. Regardless of when it is taught, don't expect too high a standard for many years. The ability to write actually continues to

grow until one reaches adulthood when all the muscular skills have fully developed.

SECTION B

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## MEDFORD TRIBUNE

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**TOURNAMENT QUEEN** — Nancy Kneeland, 19, a student at Pasadena City College, has been chosen to reign over the 75th annual Tournament of Roses. The selection was made in Pasadena from seven finalists. The other six will reign as princesses of the Royal Court. (UPI)

### New Cotton Subsidy Measure Is First Johnson Victory

WASHINGTON (UPI)—President Johnson's new administration claimed its first House victory Thursday with passage of a new subsidy bill designed to increase cotton sales by giving U.S. textile mills a better break on raw cotton prices.

The bill provides a subsidy to cotton handlers, enabling them to buy from farmers at the relatively high federal support price and re-sell to domestic mills at lower prices.

The measure also would cut the farm support level, but with an added feature granting a support "bonus" to small farmers.

The bill now goes to the Senate where no hearings were planned immediately and no action likely until early next year. When the measure does come to a vote in the Senate, indications were it will have been sharply revised. The Senate has held committee hearings on a similar measure but decided to wait for the House bill.

Administration forces put the President's prestige squarely on the line for the controversial measure, which had been dormant for months for lack of votes to pass it.

The bill, passed late Wednesday on a 216 to 182 roll call vote, had its main subsidy feature watered down on a 125-122 vote before final passage.

That close vote approved an amendment which would allow the secretary of agriculture to decide just how much subsidy is needed to eliminate the "inequality" between high domestic prices now paid by U.S. mills and the low world price paid by their competitors.

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2 years	125.41	250.81	376.26	501.67	627.08	1254.16	2508.31
3 years	192.18	384.36	576.60	768.78	960.96	1921.92	3843.84
4 years	261.82	523.64	785.54	1047.36	1309.18	2618.36	5236.72
5 years	334.45	668.90	1003.46	1337.91	1672.36	3344.72	6689.44
10 years	747.17	1494.33	2241.74	2988.91	3736.08	7472.15	14944.31
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