

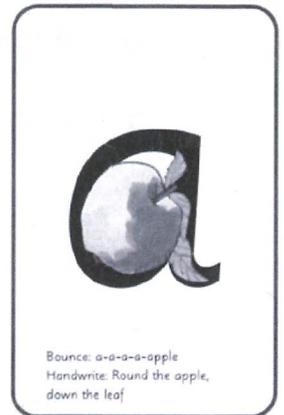
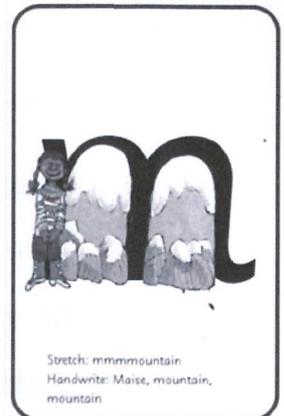


## Handwriting phrases for helping your child to form letters

This works best if your child practises for a short time every day.

1. Show the picture side and air-write as you say the phrase.
2. Ask your child to practise in the air with you.
3. Using a sharp pencil and sat at a table, encourage your child to have a go.
4. Praise your child for their efforts.

- m Maisie, mountain, mountain  
a round the apple, down the leaf  
s slither down the snake  
d round his bottom, up his tall neck and down to his feet  
t down the tower, across the tower  
i down the body, dot for the head  
n down Nobby, over his net  
p down the plait and over the pirate's face  
g round her face, down her hair and give her a curl  
o all around the orange  
c curl around the caterpillar  
k down the kangaroo's body, tail and leg  
u down and under, up to the top and draw the puddle  
b down the laces to the heel, round the toe  
f down the stem and draw the leaves  
e lift off the top and scoop out the egg  
l down the long leg  
h down the head to the hooves and over his back  
r down his back and then curl over his arm  
j down his body, curl and dot  
v down a wing, up a wing  
y down a horn, up a horn and under his head  
w down, up, down, up  
z zig-zag-zig  
q round her head, up past her earrings and down her hair  
x down the arm and leg and repeat the other side



## Ten top tips for reading stories to your child

- 1 Make reading to your child feel like a treat.  
Introduce each new book with excitement.
- 2 Make it a special quiet time and cuddle up so both of you can see the book.
- 3 Show curiosity in what you're going to read:  
*Oh no! I think Arthur is going to get even angrier now.*
- 4 Read the whole story the first time through without stopping too much. If you think your child might not understand something, model an explanation:  
*Oh I think what's happening here is that...*
- 5 Chat about the story:  
*I wonder why he did that?*  
*Oh no, I hope she's not going to...*  
*I wouldn't have done that, would you?*
- 6 Avoid asking questions to test what your child remembers.
- 7 Link stories to your own experiences (e.g. *This reminds me of...*)
- 8 Read favourite stories over and over again.  
Get your child to join in with the bits they know.
- 9 Read with enthusiasm. Don't be embarrassed to try out different voices. Your child will love it.
- 10 Read with enjoyment.  
If you're not enjoying it, your child won't.

