

How & When to Use the Transition Worktext

Manuscript is a skill needed for a lifetime!

A child learns to read using a Manuscript alphabet. Most all books are published in Manuscript. Computer screens display in Manuscript. Job application forms ask you to print in Manuscript. Traffic direction signs, street signs, and store signs almost always use Manuscript. That's why it is so important for a child to master Manuscript skills. Then, it's time to transition into Cursive.

The Transition Student Worktext is designed to offer maximum flexibility in making the transition from Manuscript to Cursive handwriting. Extra Manuscript Lessons and extra Cursive Lessons allow you to begin the transition process according to individual student readiness!

Please note: No option uses ALL the pages in the Transition Student Worktext!

Pages in the Transition Worktext are perforated so teachers can easily remove unused lessons if desired before the school year begins. Extra pages can be filed for later use in individual remediation.

OPTION 1: Transition to Cursive at the Beginning of 3rd grade.

This is the traditional and researched-based, best method for teaching Handwriting! It allows the maximum time for small motor skills development. Students begin 3rd grade with 9 weeks of special Transition practice, followed by 27 weeks of Cursive writing.

Note: Lesson pages 9-74 are optional—for use with students who may not have had two, full years of Manuscript practice.

1st nine weeks: use pages 77-122

3rd nine weeks: use pages 143-160

2nd nine weeks: use pages 125-142

4th nine weeks: use pages 161-178

Using this option, the correct curriculum sequencing would be:

1st grade - Manuscript A Worktext

4th grade - Cursive D Worktext

2nd grade - Manuscript B Worktext

5th grade - Cursive E Worktext

3rd grade - Transition Worktext

6th grade - Cursive F Worktext

OPTION 2: Transition at the start of the fourth 9 weeks of 2nd grade.

This method allows for 27 weeks of Manuscript writing, followed by 9 weeks of special Transition practice. Its primary advantage is extra time for small motor skills development.

Note: If extra Manuscript review is needed, begin with the Practice Lessons on page 9 and omit pages 53-56.

1st nine weeks: use pages 21-38

2nd nine weeks: use pages 39-56

3rd nine weeks: use pages 57-74

4th nine weeks: use pages 77-122

Omit pages 123-178

Using this option, the correct curriculum sequencing would be:

1st grade - Manuscript A Worktext

2nd grade - Transition Worktext

3rd grade - Cursive C Worktext

4th grade - Cursive D Worktext

5th grade - Cursive E Worktext

6th grade - Cursive F Worktext

OPTION 3: Transition at the start of the third 9 weeks of 2nd grade.

This method allows for 18 weeks of Manuscript writing, 9 weeks of special Transition practice, and 9 weeks of Cursive practice. For most students, this timing correlates well with the development of small motor skills.

Note: If extra Manuscript review is needed, begin with the Practice Lessons on page 9 and omit pages 53-56.

1st nine weeks: use pages 21-38

2nd nine weeks: use pages 39-56

3rd nine weeks: use pages 77-122

4th nine weeks: use pages 123-142

Omit pages 57-74, 143-178

Using this option, the correct curriculum sequencing would be:

1st grade - Manuscript A Worktext

2nd grade - Transition Worktext

3rd grade - Cursive C Worktext

4th grade - Cursive D Worktext

5th grade - Cursive E Worktext

6th grade - Cursive F Worktext