



# Squiggles & Wiggles Resource Progression

## Squiggles & Wiggles Preschool Product Progression for Instruction

### Squiggles & Wiggles Pre-K Pack

The Squiggle Squad is a group of animal friends meant to inspire and motivate little learners to enjoy writing by hand. Activities focus on developing the muscle control needed for handwriting and directionality conducive to efficient letter formation. The SW Preschool Pack provides activities that simulate playing with animal friends to make handwriting less intimidating and more accessible to young learners.



### 1 - GROSS MOTOR SKILLS

Very young children benefit from moving their whole bodies. Following your instructions, have students try letter strokes using their whole bodies, hands, fingers, and even their nose (!) in air. This helps them learn to control their large muscles and prepares them for the directionality they will later be doing with the smaller muscles in their hands and fingers. (Stroke posters are sold separately.)



### 2 - FINGER TRACING EXERCISES

If a child cannot trace a line with their finger, they will not be able to do so with a pencil. Squiggles & Wiggles table mats (laminated mats included in your Preschool Pack) and finger trace playsheets (located on the left side of the Master Sheets Folder\*) are designed to help children develop the dexterity and directionality needed to form letters by first introducing the letter strokes through finger trace activities.

*\*Because new little writers need lots of practice, all of the playsheets provided in the master sheet folder are meant to be reproduced as needed. Consider laminating some of the activities to use over and over.*



### 3 - PENCIL PRACTICE

Once they are showing adequate hand control with the finger tracing exercises and a willingness to try activities with a writing implement, introduce the stroke-specific playsheets. Using the playsheets with the crayon symbol, practice the Squiggle Squad's favorite squiggles using a crayon, fat pencil, or dry erase marker. (If they're ready for a standard size pencil, go for it!) Teach children to try their best. Improvement will come over time with repeated effort.



### 4 - LET'S LEARN TO MAKE LETTERS

Young children are learning to recognize and understand letters in print, but writing them is a whole other skill! When they are comfortable with drawing the Squiggle Squad strokes in isolation, students can begin putting the lines together to form letters. Remind them that their animal friends are now playing together and show them how to form letters using their index finger and—when ready—a writing implement.

**Keep it playful. Happy Handwriting!**