

4-20-20

Dear Parents,

I will be bringing you the remote lessons three times per week from now on. You can expect lessons on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. I am experimenting with the format and appreciate your feedback.

First of all, in response to a parent inquiry, I have located some very good COVID-19 resources. Below is a link to a group of resources designed for parents of young children. It is from the The Office of Early Learning (Florida Department of Education). I find it to be one of the best tools I have seen for early childhood. Please take some time to explore the articles and tips for play, routine and talking about COVID19.

<https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/3210-tips-for-families-coronavirus>

## **Lesson #9**

### **Earth Day**

I'd like to read a story to you called Who Lives Here? By Alec Rafter. I chose this book because it reminds us that the Earth is home to so many wonderful animals. When we take care of the Earth we care for God's creatures as well.

<https://youtu.be/Evs9NxNL8So>

This video is filmed at George McGough Nature Park at the Largo Narrows (on Walsingham Road near the causeway). I highly recommend that you make a visit there. My children refer to it as the Turtle Park due to the many turtles that live there (bring quarters to purchase turtle food). They have added several screened enclosures of birds of prey including owls, hawks and a bald eagle. You can walk along the trails and out on the boardwalk over the intercoastal. The park is open until 8:00 pm and is safe to visit as long as you stay off the playground and practice social distancing.

We are continuing our theme of Earth Day this week. Last time, we learned a little bit about recycling. I hope you enjoyed the crafts and videos. I have more interesting information to share with you.

I happened to see this young man on the show Little Big Shots. He has become a celebrity for his work in the recycling industry. I thought you might enjoy seeing how kids can make a difference in saving the Earth.

<https://ryansrecycling.com/>

I thought you might also like this video which takes you on a tour of a recycling center.

<https://florida.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/9f51c5d8-12c7-410b-b3d8-38fec5634bab/recycling-center-field-trip#.Xpn7JbwdC-k.email>

Another recycling video. This one is shorter and better for our two year old friends.

<https://florida.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/ket-earlychild-ss8/bye-bye-bottle#.Xpn7iTovZsQ.email>

Recyclable items such as bottle caps, cans, and plastic bottles can be used for many different activities. Other household items can serve as manipulatives for learning. Remember that children learn through discovery. Give them materials, and opportunities to build concepts and skills. Also give them the language they will need by engaging them with thought-provoking questions and new vocabulary.

Here are some ideas for activities. These are general guidelines and not intended as an assessment tool. They are suggestions for areas you can address with your child. Every child is unique and is on their own developmental journey.

### **Activities for two year olds:**

Count rote to 10.

Count items to 5.

Learn about opposites.

Learn about smaller, larger, longer, shorter.

Water play with funnels, cups, etc.

Coloring with large crayons

Folding and tearing paper

Tracing shapes

Painting with paint/water/glue

Working with play dough (can be made at home)(use cookie cutters and other "tools:)

Fitting things in containers. (nesting blocks)

Using tongs to pick up things. (cotton balls)

Scooping items with spoons(rice, beans) into different size cups.

Figuring out wooden puzzles.

Clipping clothespins to a pipe cleaner, cup or belt.

Matching items.

Sorting boxes - use any household items to sort by color, size, texture, use

Doing fingerplays-working on counting -One two buckle my shoe, etc

Follow the leader games.

Stacking wooden blocks. Building with large legos/Duplo blocks. Pushing cars.

Putting pegs in pegboard.

### **Three year old activities:**

Sensory Exploration with sand, water, slime.

Melt ice cubes on a tray. Put water in freezer. Talk about how water changes.

Work with magnets.

Explore shadows.

Set up a sink or float experiment.

Use a flashlight to discover how light reflects/how it gets blocked.

Make ramps for rolling cars/make cardboard tube tunnels for rolling balls. Change angles, change force, watch speed change.

Use measuring spoons, cups, funnels and various sizes of containers for discovering volume.

Count rote to 20. Count items to 10.

Say the alphabet.

Identify some letters. Recognize some letter sounds.

Practice writing the letters in own name.

## **Four year old activities:**

Memory games

Sequencing games, stories, songs

Puzzles

Writing letters of the alphabet.

Knowing the sounds each letter makes.

Identifying the beginning letter of words.

Writing own name and a few other basic words.(Mom, Dad)

Counting rote to 30.

Counting items to 20.

Sorting, counting coins.

Drawing a person with basic body parts.

Listening and following three step directions.

## Crafts Using Recyclables

Save large plastic soda bottles to make bird feeders and plant terrariums. Use cardboard and water bottle caps to create a tic tac toe or checkerboard. Melt old broken crayons in muffin tins to create new ones. Cut open your large paper bags and lay them out as an artist's canvas. The handle becomes a hook for hanging the painting. Painted cans help organize all those art supplies.



## LETTER W

Here are some songs, books and crafts that begin with the letter W.

Songs:

“He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands”

(I have a favorite old clip of this one.)

<https://youtu.be/gAzBOGA2JPA>

Here’s a song that teaches us how to write the letter W and make the sound with our mouths.

Jack Hartmann Letter W song

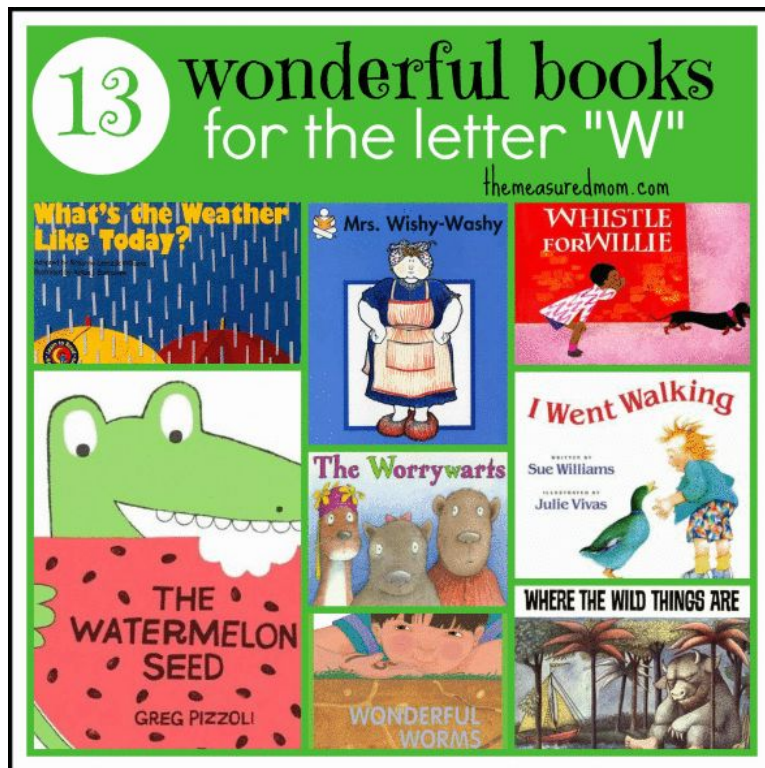
[https://youtu.be/mQZ-c3\\_EDj4](https://youtu.be/mQZ-c3_EDj4)

Sesame Street Letter W

<https://youtu.be/uwKzNGgKoQU>

Books:

In our next lesson, I will be reading Wonderful Worms by Linda Glaser. Here is a list of some good books that begin with the letter W. Maybe you have one of them at your house.



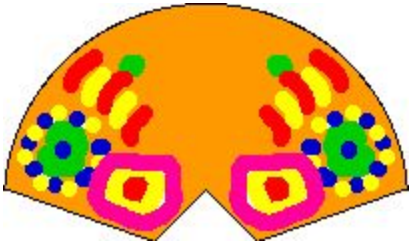



# Butterfly Wand



For each butterfly you will need:

- A popsicle stick
- A pipe cleaner
- A cone-shaped coffee filter
- Colorful markers or crayons
- Glue (a hot glue gun is perfect- an adult does the gluing)

 <p>Put glue on popsicle stick.</p>	 <p>Attach the pipe cleaner.</p>	<p>Have an adult glue a pipe cleaner to a popsicle stick. Hot glue is the easiest way to do this. Let the glue cool off for a few minutes while the children decorate the wings.</p>
	<p>Open up a cone-shaped coffee filter at the seam. Decorate the coffee filter with markers or crayons. Decorations in the very middle will be crumpled, so concentrate on the outer parts.</p>	
	<p>Attach the paper to the popsicle stick with the pipe cleaner. Bend the ends to form antennae.</p>	



Craft from [Lil' Miss Smartypants](#).

Supplies: half a paper plate, construction paper squares, and watered down glue.

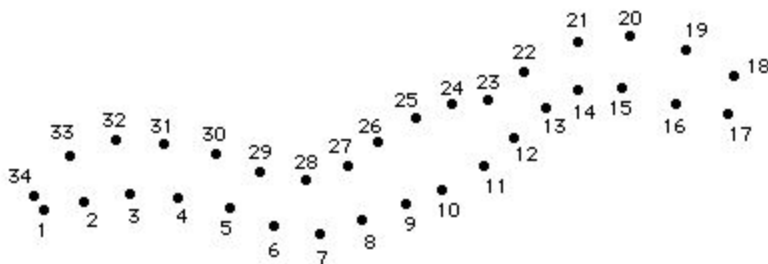
Directions: Using a paintbrush, paint glue on plates and apply squares.

The following are worksheets for our older students. The letter worksheets can be put in plastic sheet protectors and used many times. Give your child a dry erase marker and an old sock and they can practice writing the letters over and over. Just check in periodically to make sure they are forming the letters correctly and saying the correct letter name aloud.

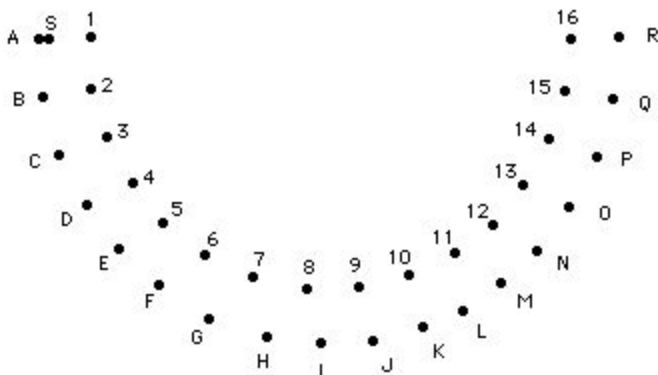


Connect the dots to find words  
that start with W. Then finish  
writing the words.

Name \_\_\_\_\_




w	o		m
---	---	--	---





w	a		e	r	m	e		o	n
---	---	--	---	---	---	---	--	---	---


### Words that begin with the letter W


Fill in the blank with the correct word. Use the word bank below.


\_\_\_\_\_ → 


\_\_\_\_\_ → 

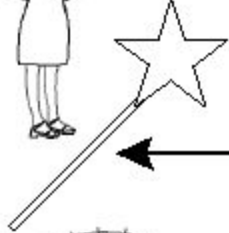
\_\_\_\_\_ → 


\_\_\_\_\_ → 


\_\_\_\_\_ → 

\_\_\_\_\_ → 

\_\_\_\_\_ → 

\_\_\_\_\_ → 

\_\_\_\_\_ → 

\_\_\_\_\_ → 

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whale  
web

wand  
wheel

wagon  
woman

world  
watermelon

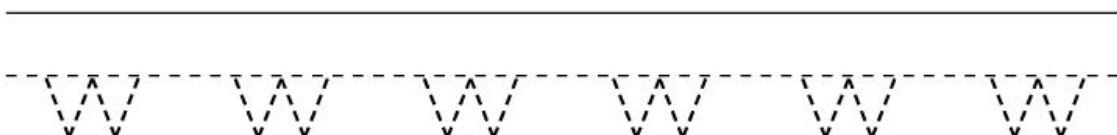
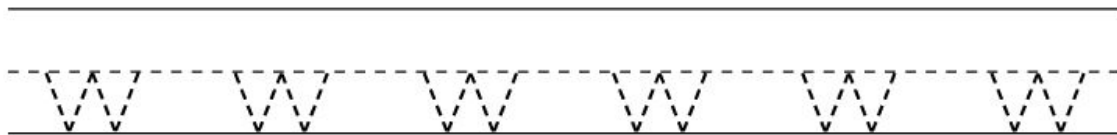
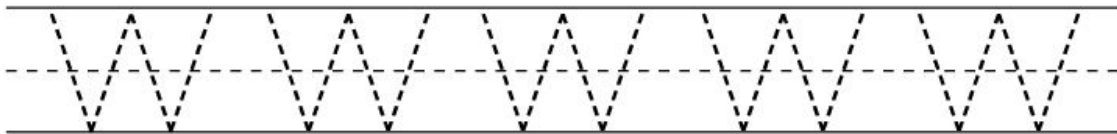
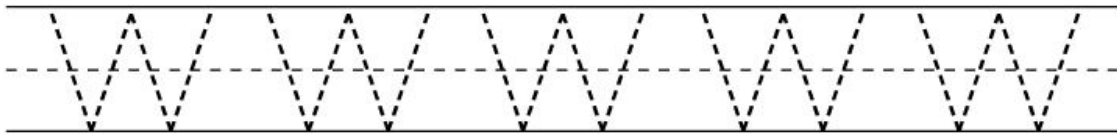
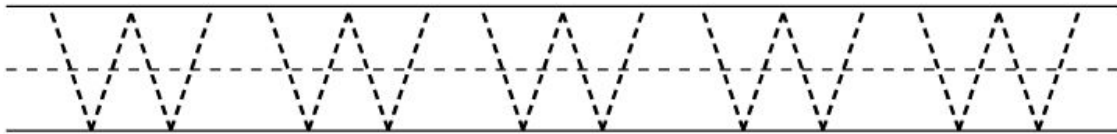
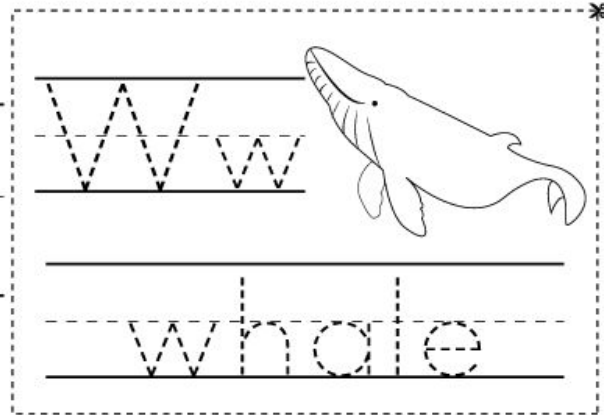
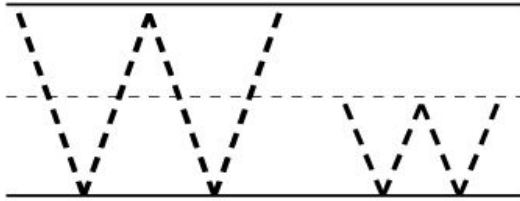
walrus

wasp



# Handwriting Practice - Letter W

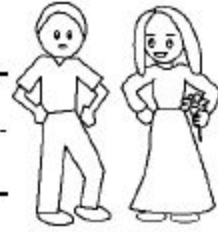
Name \_\_\_\_\_



Trace and write words that begin with Ww.

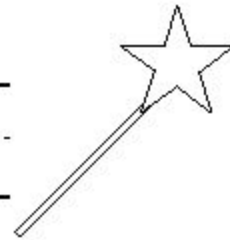
Ww W w

we



web

wand



wasp

wall

