

Using D'Nealian Handwriting

Welcome



Hi, teachers.

Welcome to *D'Nealian® Handwriting*-a K-5 continuous stroke, manuscript-cursive handwriting program that has been *reimagined* to support learning wherever it takes place.

Join me for the next few minutes so I can help you feel prepared to jump in on day one. We'll explore the advantages of *D'Nealian* by looking at the lesson design, how the program works, and the components.

Let's get started!

Advantages

D'Nealian Advantages

Eases the transition from **manuscript** to **cursive**

Cuts down on **common reversals**

Manuscript		Transition to Cursive	Cursive	
Grade K	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grades 4 and 5
Getting Ready to Write	Getting Ready to Write	Getting Ready to Write	Getting Ready to Write	Reviewing Manuscript Letters
Writing Numbers	Writing Lowercase Letters	Writing Manuscript Letters	Writing Manuscript Letters	Writing Cursive Letters
Writing Lowercase Letters	Writing Numbers and Number Words	Writing Lowercase Cursive Letters	Writing Lowercase Cursive Letters	Applying Handwriting Skills
Writing Capital Letters	Writing Capital Letters	Writing Capital Cursive Letters	Writing Capital Cursive Letters	

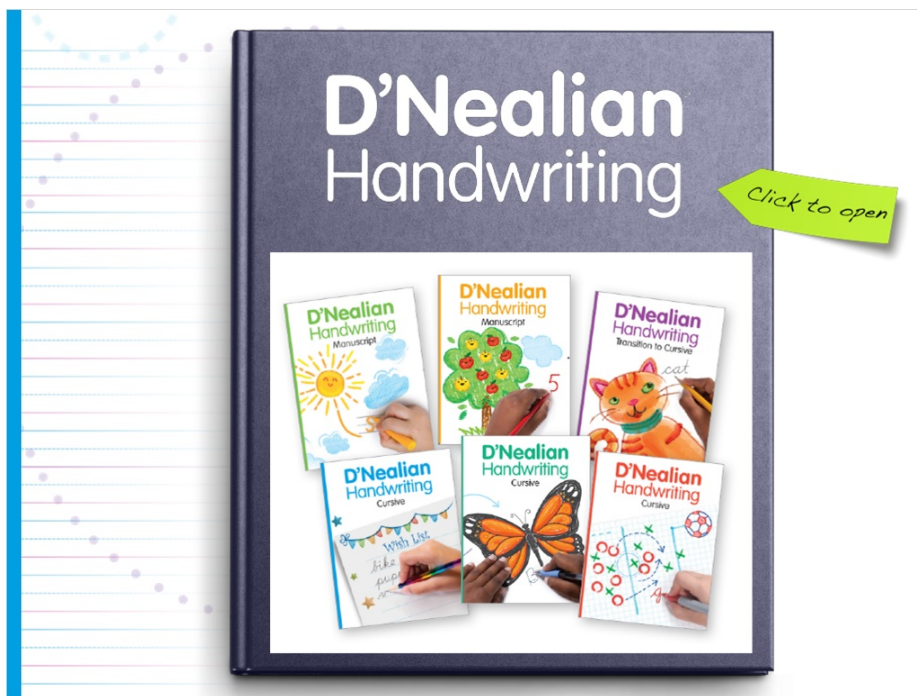
First, let's explore the advantages of *D'Nealian Handwriting*.

D'Nealian supports early literacy and fine motor skills development with a lowercase continuous stroke focused on proper size, slant, and spacing.

The program cuts down on common reversals such as *b* and *d* or *p* and *g*, because there are few pencil lifts.

D'Nealian eases the transition from manuscript to cursive since most lowercase letters are the same in cursive.

How Does D'Nealian Work?



How does *D'Nealian* work?

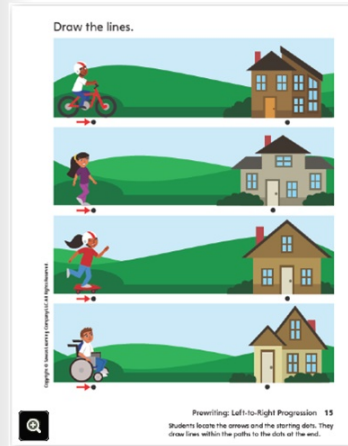
Build Prewriting Skills

Build Prewriting Skills

D'Nealian begins by teaching students critical prewriting skills, such as left-to-right progression, proper writing sitting position, along with fine motor skills like pencil grip and eye-hand coordination.



Click to go back



Click to turn

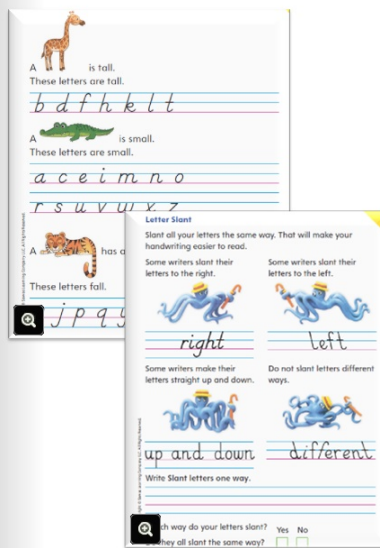
Proper Size, Slant, and Spacing

Proper Size, Slant, and Spacing

D'Nealian teaches students proper slant, letter size, and spacing and continually emphasizes these skills throughout the program.



Click to go back



Click to turn

Writing Manuscript Letters and Numbers

Writing Manuscript Letters and Numbers

In *D'Nealian*, students will first learn to **trace** manuscript lowercase letters and then they will practice **writing** the letters on their own. Students will learn to write numerals and number words.

Students learn to **trace** manuscript capital letters and then they will practice **writing** the letters.



Click to go back

Click to turn

Transitioning to Cursive

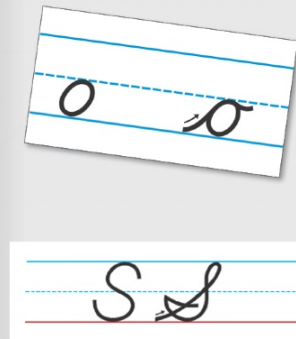
Transitioning to Cursive

The *D'Nealian* manuscript continuous stroke method facilitates a smooth transition to writing **lowercase cursive letters**.

Students learn their **capital cursive letters** by tracing the letters, then writing the letters.



Click to go back



Click to turn

Components

D'Nealian Handwriting Components

Teacher's Edition

Student Edition

Handwriting Kit (K-2)
Tracing Letter and Number Cards
Alpha Touch Cards
Write-on/Wipe-off Cards

Learn Anywhere!
SAVVAS realize™
• Teaching Resources
• Printable Practice
• Video Animations
• Much more!

Digital Access on Savvas Realize™

Now that you know how the program works, let's take a look at the materials you and your students will be using. *D'Nealian Handwriting* has print program components and digital access on Savvas Realize™, our online platform. Take a few minutes to check out each component.

Teachers Edition

D'Nealian Handwriting Components

Teacher's Edition

D'Nealian Handwriting provides teachers everything they need to support handwriting instruction:

- Step-by-step instruction for each part of the lesson
- Annotated Student Edition pages
- Embedded teaching support in English and Spanish

Student Edition

D'Nealian Handwriting Components

Student Edition

D'Nealian Handwriting connects learning through:

- Colorful illustrations
- Engaging activities
- Self-evaluation tool

Handwriting Kit

D'Nealian Handwriting Components

Handwriting Kit

D'Nealian Handwriting includes the option to purchase a K-2 handwriting kit to support tactile learning for students learning how to write.

The kit includes:

- **alpha-touch cards**
- a classroom set (25) of **write-on/wipe-off cards** to support hands-on learning and practice
- **tracing letter** and **number cards** to offer additional tactile and hands-on learning for young students

D'Nealian Handwriting Kit
Grades K-2

Alpha Touch Cards
A a

Write-on/Wipe Off Rewrite Cards, set of 25

Tracing Letter and Number Cards

Realize

D'Nealian Handwriting Components

Digital Access on Savvas Realize

D'Nealian Handwriting includes digital access on Savvas Realize where you can find teaching resources, printable student practice pages, stroke modeling animations, and much more.

You'll see:

- Stroke Modeling Animations
- Interactive Teacher's Edition
- Student Edition PDF
- On-Demand Student Practice Pages
- Interactive Student Practice

SAVVAS realize™

Lesson Design

Objectives

- Trace and write the lowercase letter c.
- Write words with the lowercase letter c.

Warm Up

Show students the lowercase c Letter Formation video.

TECER Write lowercase c as you say the letter description. Have students repeat after you.
 Start a little below the middle. Curve around the bend. Down you go.
 Curve up right. Brake and stop! | Comienza un poco por debajo del medio.
 Da la vuelta a la curva. Breggy sabe por la curva hacia la derecha. ¡frena y para!

Model and Guide Practice

- Guide students to page 37 in the student book. Have students finger trace the model c.
- Have students trace and write the letters using the starting dots.
- Have students write words with the letter c.

Practice Have students complete student page 37.

Evaluate Help students check their letters for correct steps, connections, and placement.

- Do my c's curve down to the bottom line?
- Do my c's stop before the middle line?

When they have reviewed their work, have students circle the best c that they wrote.

Additional Practice

Alpha Touch Card cC, Tracing Card cC
 SavvasRealize.com

- Practice and Review Workbook, pp. 31–32

ACTIVITY BANK

Back to Back Have students sit on the rug in rows and pretend that the person's back in front of them is a chalkboard, their index finger is chalk, and their other hand is an eraser. Gently write the letter c on a review letter and have the "chalkboard" guess the letter. **LETTER PRACTICE**

Calico Cat Have students practice this couplet with words that start with c. My calico cat can play hide-and-seek. / She jumps in dad's coat and won't even peek. **AUDITORY**

Click the image to watch an animation video for lowercase letter c. When you're done, click Next.

What does a lowercase letter c look like?

What does a lesson look like? Within the Teacher's Edition, you'll find easy-to-follow lesson plans.

Every lesson begins with a clear objective. Stroke modeling animations on Savvas Realize can be used to support instruction during the Warm-Up.

4-step

Unit 2

Writing c

Objectives

- Trace and write the lowercase letter c.
- Write words with c.

Warm Up

- Show students the lowercase c Letter Formation video.

1 Teach Write lowercase c as you say the letter description. Have students repeat after you.

- Start a little below the middle. Curve around the bend. Down you go. Curve up right. Brake and stop! | Comienza un poco por debajo del medio. Da la vuelta a la curva. Baja y sube por la curva hacia la derecha. ¡Frena y para!

2 Model and Guide Practice

- Guide students to page 37 in the student book. Have students finger trace the model c.
- Have students trace and write the letters using the starting dots.
- Have students write words with the letter c.

3 Practice Have students complete student page 37.

4 Evaluate Help students check their letters for correct steps, connections, and placement.

- Do my c's curve down to the bottom line?
- Do my c's stop before the middle line?

When they have reviewed their work, have students circle the best c that they wrote.

Additional Practice

- Alpha Touch Card cC; Tracing Card cC
- SavvasRealize.com
- Practice and Review Workbook, pp. 31-32

ACTIVITY BANK

Back to Back Have students sit on the rug in rows and pretend that the person's back in front of them is a chalkboard, their index finger is chalk, and their other hand is an eraser. Gently write the letter c or a review letter and have the "chalkboard" guess the letter. **LETTER PRACTICE**

Calico Cat Have students practice this couplet with words that start with c. *My calico cat can play hide-and seek. / She jumps in dad's coat and won't even peek.* **AUDITORY**

WRITING LOWERCASE LETTERS • Unit 2 • 37

D'Nealian follows a simple 4-step lesson design with short practice sessions. This makes it easy to incorporate handwriting instruction and practice into your classroom routine.

Let's take a closer look at each step.

Step 1: Teach

Step 1: Teach

Teach Write lowercase **c** as you say the letter description. Have students repeat after you.

Start a little below the middle. Curve around the bend. Down you go. Curve up right. Brake and stop! | Comienza un poco por debajo del medio. Da la vuelta a la curva. Baja y sube por la curva hacia la derecha. ¡Frena y para!

c

In step 1, you provide explicit support for teaching the tracing or writing skill. The explanations you provide to students are offered in English and Spanish.

Step 2: Model and Guide Practice

Step 2: Model and Guide Practice

coat

cat

coat

Audio

Visual

Tactile

Kinesthetic

Model and Guide Practice

- Guide students to page 37 in the student book. Have students finger trace the model c.
- Have students trace and write the letters using the starting dots.
- Have students write words with the letter c.

In step 2, you will model and guide students through the lesson objective.

The skills are modeled through a variety of learning modalities including audio, visual, tactile, and kinesthetic.

Step 3: Practice

Step 3: Practice

Practice

Have students complete student page 37.

The screenshot shows a student edition page titled "Writing c" from Unit 2. It includes objectives, a warm-up tip, a teach section with a letter formation diagram, model and guide practice, an evaluate section with a checklist, additional practice, and an activity bank with a "Back to Back" and "Calico Cat" activity.

A photograph of a young girl with braided hair, wearing a yellow shirt and blue overalls, sitting at a desk and writing in a notebook with a purple pencil.

In step 3, students complete their practice for the lesson.

This part of the lesson includes point-of-use reference to the Student Edition pages.

Step 4: Evaluate

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Evaluate Help students check their letters for correct steps, connections, and placement.

- Do my c's curve down to the bottom line?
- Do my c's stop before the middle line?

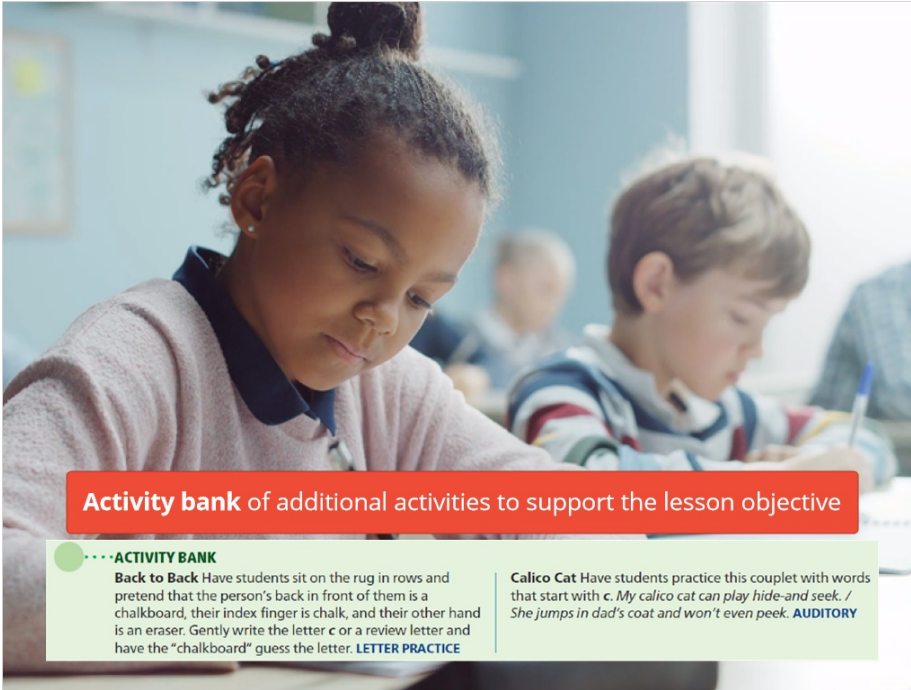
When they have reviewed their work, have students circle the best c that they wrote.

Supports student independence and fosters self-assessment

In step 4, you support students in checking their own tracing and letter formation.

You'll notice we've added suggested questions for students to check their letter formation. This step supports student independence and fosters self-assessment.

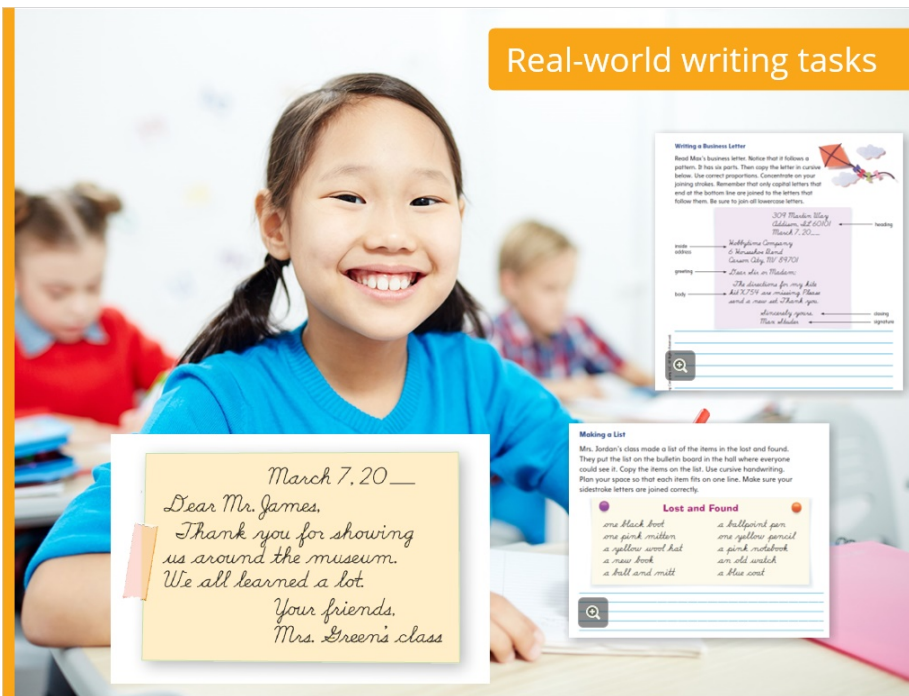
Additional Practice



Every *D'Nealian* lesson includes printable practice worksheets you can download and print from Savvas Realize.

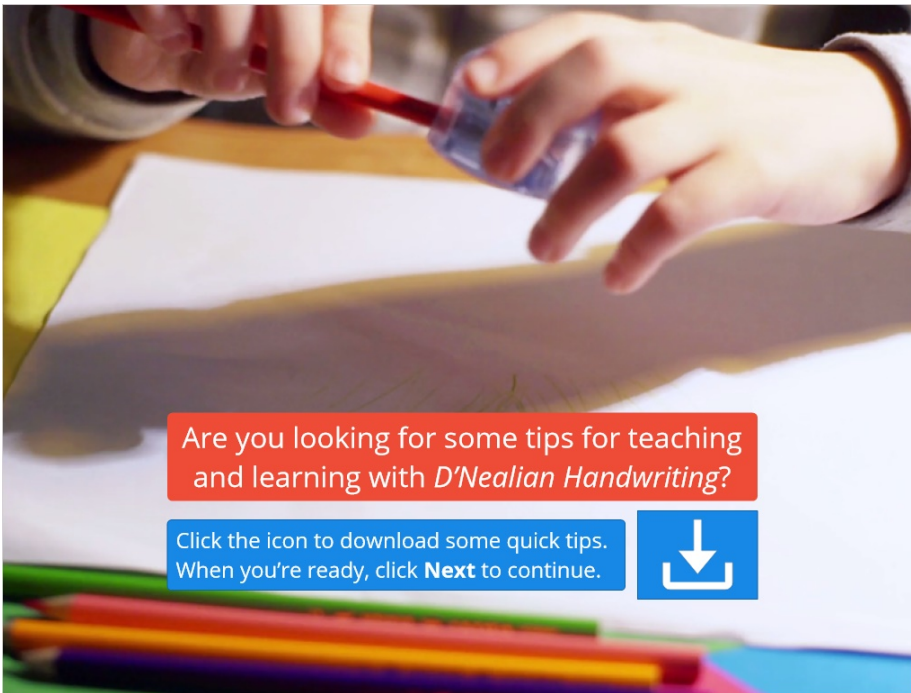
Every lesson includes an activity bank of additional activities to support the lesson objective and offer opportunities to differentiate and extend instruction. The activities invite purposeful play with letters and words, they're often tactile, offer connections, and therefore make letters more memorable.

Real-World Tasks



As students learn cursive, they practice real-world writing tasks such as writing lists and thank you letters. This helps build motivation and a sense of accomplishment.

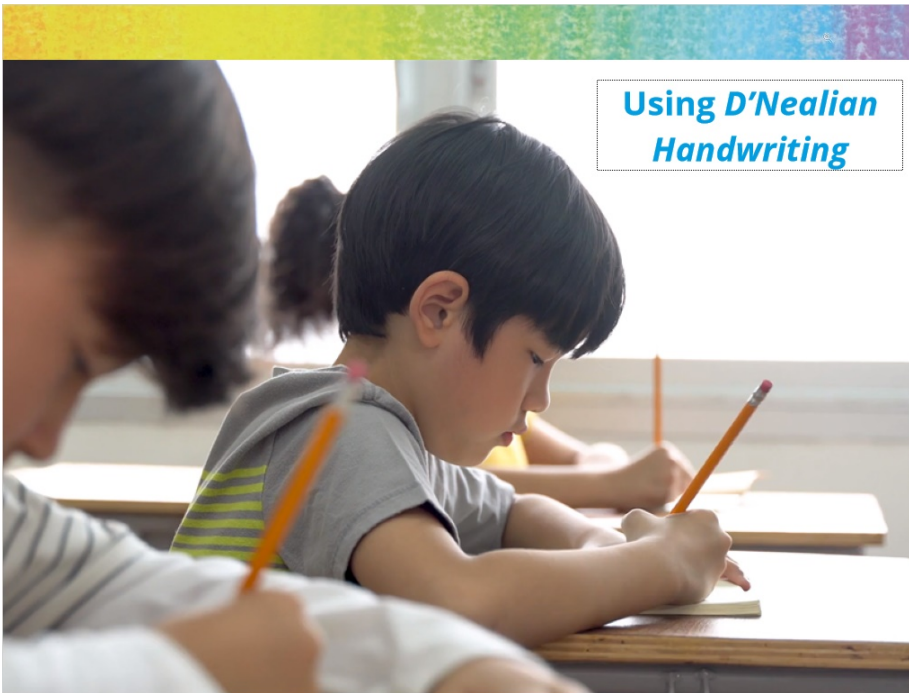
Tips for Teaching and Learning



Are you looking for some tips for teaching and learning with *D'Nealian Handwriting*?

Check out these suggestions.

Let's Recap!



Now it's your turn.

You know the *D'Nealian Handwriting* components, advantages, and lesson design. Go ahead and try it in your classroom.

Thanks for watching!