

Letter-Perfect

Handwriting

Instruction

Created By  
Jamie Rosenberg Friedman, MOT, OT/L  
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# Letter-Perfect Handwriting Instruction

## *Capital Letters Workbook*

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## **Letter-Perfect Handwriting Instruction**

### ***Capital Letters Workbook***

Handwriting is the first formal method that students use to translate language into writing and share knowledge (Connelly et al., 2007). It is an essential skill that requires clear and organized instruction for mastery. *Letter-Perfect Handwriting Instruction* is an instructional handwriting initiative that is based both on research and theory and uniquely emphasizes the production of letter formation through the use of graphic behavior. These rules are based on the sequences and directions that are used to produce geometrical shapes which are then applied to forming letters. *Letter-Perfect Handwriting Instruction* uses graphic behavior to analyze letter formation and organize the progression of instruction to optimize and simplify learning. Letters with fewer strokes that are easier to master are taught first. As the workbook continues, more complex letter formations that require more stroke variations are taught. The *Letter-Perfect Handwriting Instruction* workbook offers simple and precise instructions for writing each letter and provides plenty of opportunities for practice.

The *Letter-Perfect Handwriting Instruction*, capital letters workbook, is intended as a starting point for letter instruction. Capital letters are easier to learn than their lowercase counterparts because of the consistency in their size (one) and similar starting points. In contrast, lowercase letters are more difficult to learn due to greater variability in size (three) and starting points.

## Letter Perfect Handwriting Instruction Workbook Organization

The *Letter-Perfect Handwriting Instruction* workbook is organized for simplicity and based on the principles of graphic organization. Letter instruction follows the following sequence:

1. *Starting point letters* – these letters have only one stroke. The starting point is emphasized (e.g., C).
2. *Fluid letters* - these letters have more than one stroke. The second stroke is drawn from the endpoint of the first line (e.g., 'L').
3. *Fixed letters* - these letters also have multiple strokes. The second stroke is drawn from the starting point of the first line (e.g., 'N').
4. *Flexible letters* - these letters have multiple strokes and a second starting point. The second stroke starts at a point in space (e.g., 'K').

*Letter-Perfect Handwriting Instruction* also borrows from motor learning theory and incorporates two types of practice conditions, blocked and random. Blocked practice occurs when one distinct motor skill is repeatedly practiced before progressing to another distinct motor skill (Guadagnoli & Lee, 2004). With the *Letter-Perfect Handwriting Instruction* workbook, students practice each new letter, separately and repeatedly to mimic blocked practice conditions. Random practice occurs when multiple motor skills are practiced in no specific order (Guadagnoli & Lee, 2004). The *Letter-Perfect Handwriting Instruction* workbook provides random practice after each letter group is taught and at timely intervals within the larger groups (fixed and flexible) for opportunities to write the letters out of sequence and from memory.

With each letter, *Letter-Perfect Handwriting Instruction* highlights the starting point with a star and then provides numbered directional arrows that correspond with the line segments to guide the student's next strokes. These cues are gradually faded as the student gains competency through practice.

Each new letter also has a second page for students to continue practicing as well as a picture of an animal that begins with the practice letter. This second page demonstrates the practice letter used in a word and has an educational fun fact about the animal for further discussion. Coloring the picture provides students another fun opportunity to practice the fine motor skills used for writing. Practice pages are provided throughout the workbook to allow students to practice writing letters from memory.

### **How to Use this Workbook**

The *Letter-Perfect Handwriting Instruction* was developed to provide simple instruction for children. Each new letter page opens with a sample of the capital and lowercase letter. Instructors should begin with modeling each new letter with a demonstration that emphasizes the letter's starting point, stroke direction, and stroke sequence. This can be done simply on a whiteboard or blackboard at the front of the classroom or sitting next to the student with a piece of paper or dry erase board.

Instructors should read aloud during the initial demonstrations and repeat before each new practice opportunity. Hearing the instructions and seeing the sample letters while writing the letters, gives students multi-sensory cues that improves learning. Instructors should monitor the students to ensure that they are drawing the letter segments from the correct starting point, in the correct direction, and in the correct sequence. The workbook provides multiple and varied practice opportunities to guide

students and promote good writing habits. Finally, students should be encouraged to reflect on their work and circle their best efforts.

### **Recommendations**

1. Give students plenty of opportunities to write, draw, and color with pencils, markers, and crayons.
2. Provide lined paper when students need to write.
3. Incorporate opportunities to discuss the practice letters throughout the day.
4. Always support the students' efforts and provide positive feedback.
5. Don't overemphasize neatness or speed. Emphasize proper letter formation.
6. Allow the students to critique their own work.
7. Have fun with writing!

# Chapter One

Starting

Point

Letters



## Chapter One: Starting Point Letters

Young children develop certain tendencies when they begin drawing geometrical shapes (Meulenbroek et al., 1996). *Letter-Perfect Handwriting Instruction* applies these drawing tendencies to handwriting instruction. Chapter One of the workbook focuses on the starting point of letters that have only one stroke. Research suggests that children are inclined to begin copying the first segment stroke (the first line or curve) at the top and progress the stroke downward (Meulenbroek et al., 1996). Letters that follow this profile are O, C, U, and S.

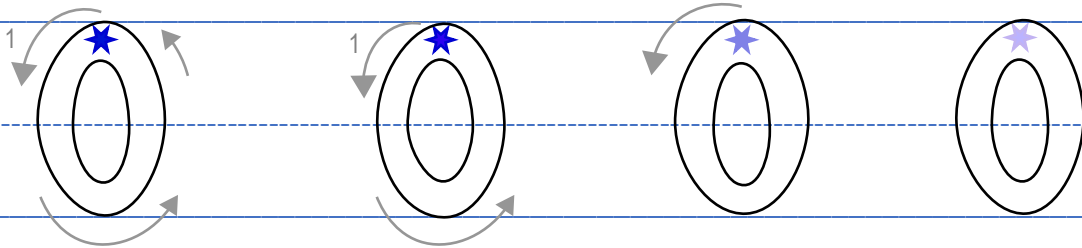
Instructors should read the instructions aloud for each practice trial and take note that students are beginning each letter at the correct starting point. Students are encouraged to practice writing each letter separately (blocked practice) and then practice the letters together (random practice). The last page in this chapter is a lined blank page. This page is provided for the instructor to randomly dictate the letters O, C, U, and S for the student to practice writing letters from memory.



**Draw Inside the Lines**

★ Start at the star.

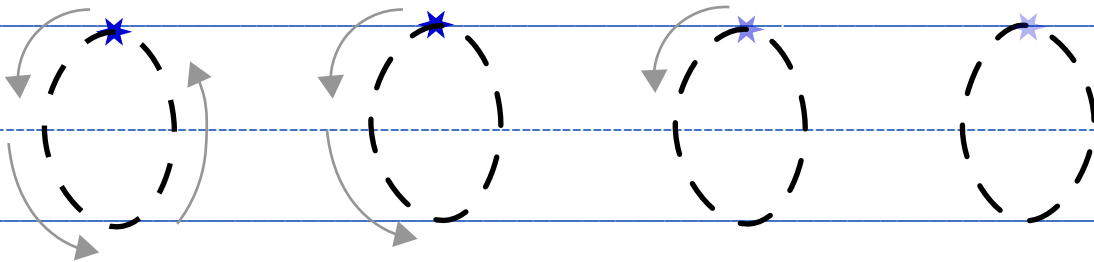
1. Draw a curved line down to the bottom, around, and back up to the star.



**Connect the Dashed Lines**

★ Start at the star.

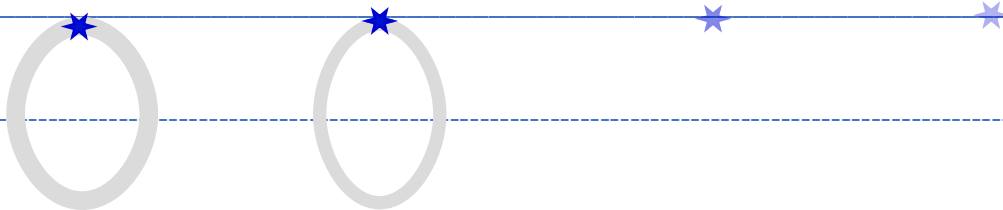
1. Draw a curved line down to the bottom, around, and back up to the star.



**Write the Letter O**

★ Start at the star.

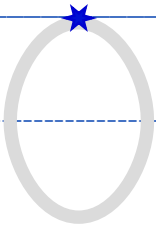
1. Draw a curved line down to the bottom, around, and back up to the star.



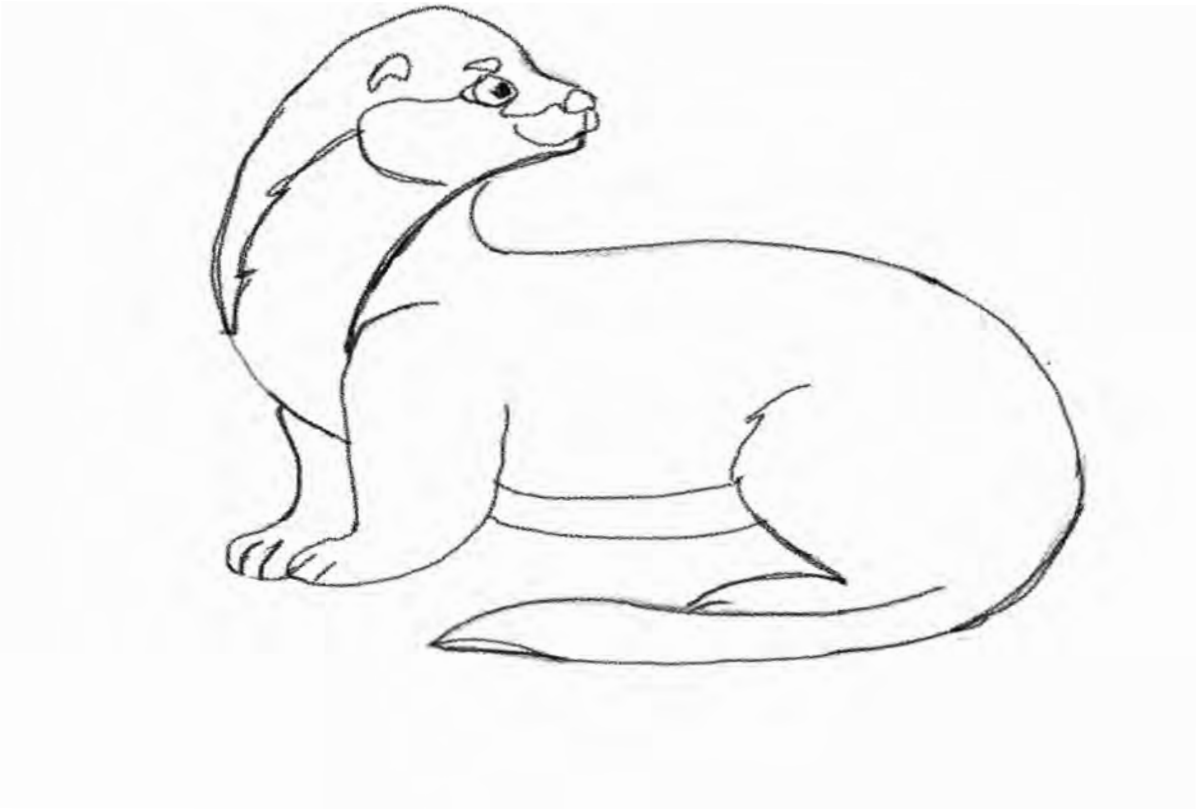
*Write the letter O*

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a curved line down to the bottom, around, and back up to the star.



**O**tter

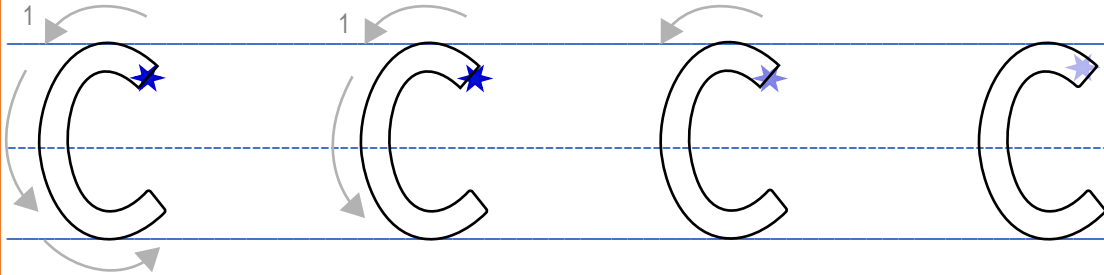


Did you Know: Otter  
fur is waterproof.

# C c

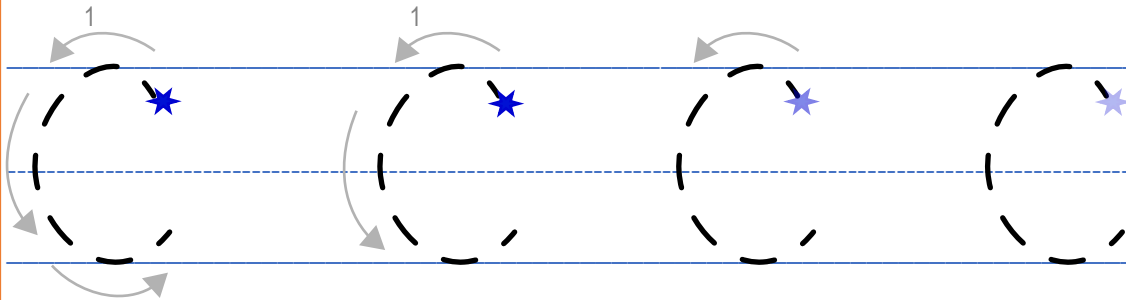
### Draw Inside the Lines

- ★ Start at the star.
- 1. Draw a curved line up and around to the bottom, and around.



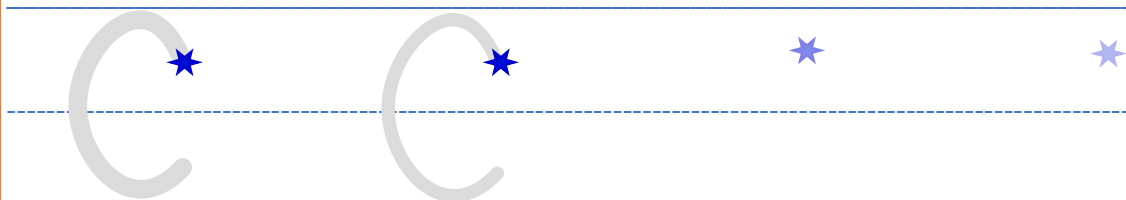
### Connect the Dashed Lines

- ★ Start at the star.
- 1. Draw a curved line up and around to the bottom, and around.



### Write the Letter C

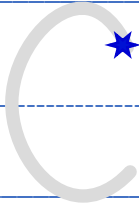
- ★ Start at the star.
- 1. Draw a curved line up and around to the bottom, and around.



*Write the Letter C*

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a curved line up and around to the bottom, and around.



# Capybara



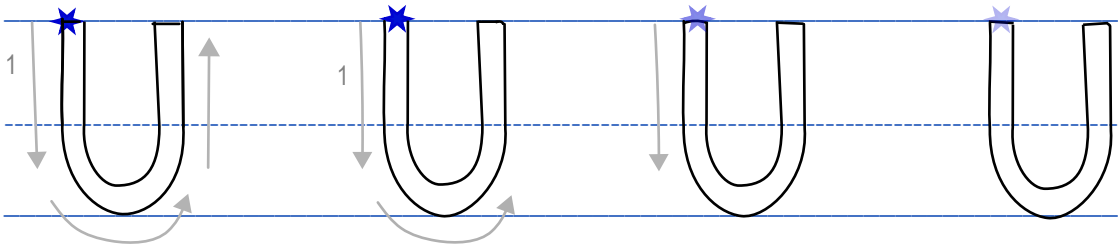
Did you know  
The front two teeth of the capybara grow continuously. Capybara gnaw  
their food to grind their teeth.

U u

**Draw Inside the Lines**

★ Start at the star.

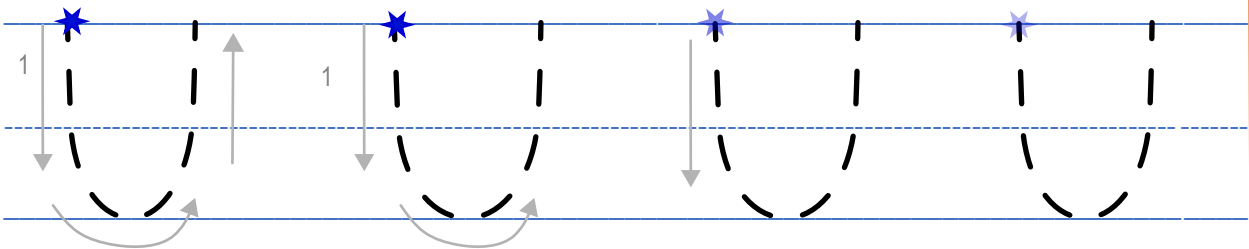
1. Draw a line down to the bottom, curve around and back up to the top line.



**Connect the Dashed Lines**

★ Start at the star.

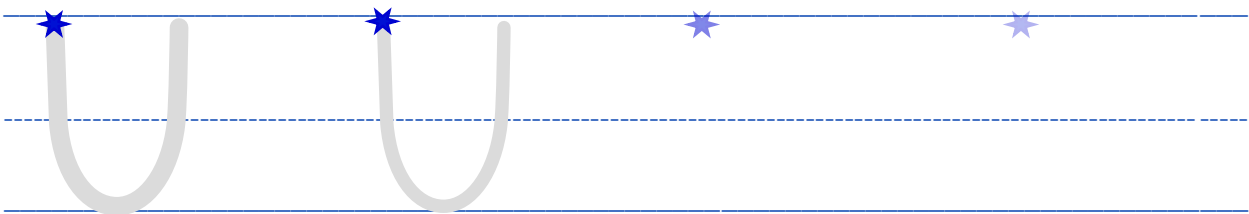
1. Draw a line down to the bottom, curve around and back up to the top line.



**Write the Letter U**

★ Start at the star.

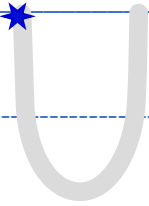
1. Draw a line down to the bottom, curve around and back up to the top line.



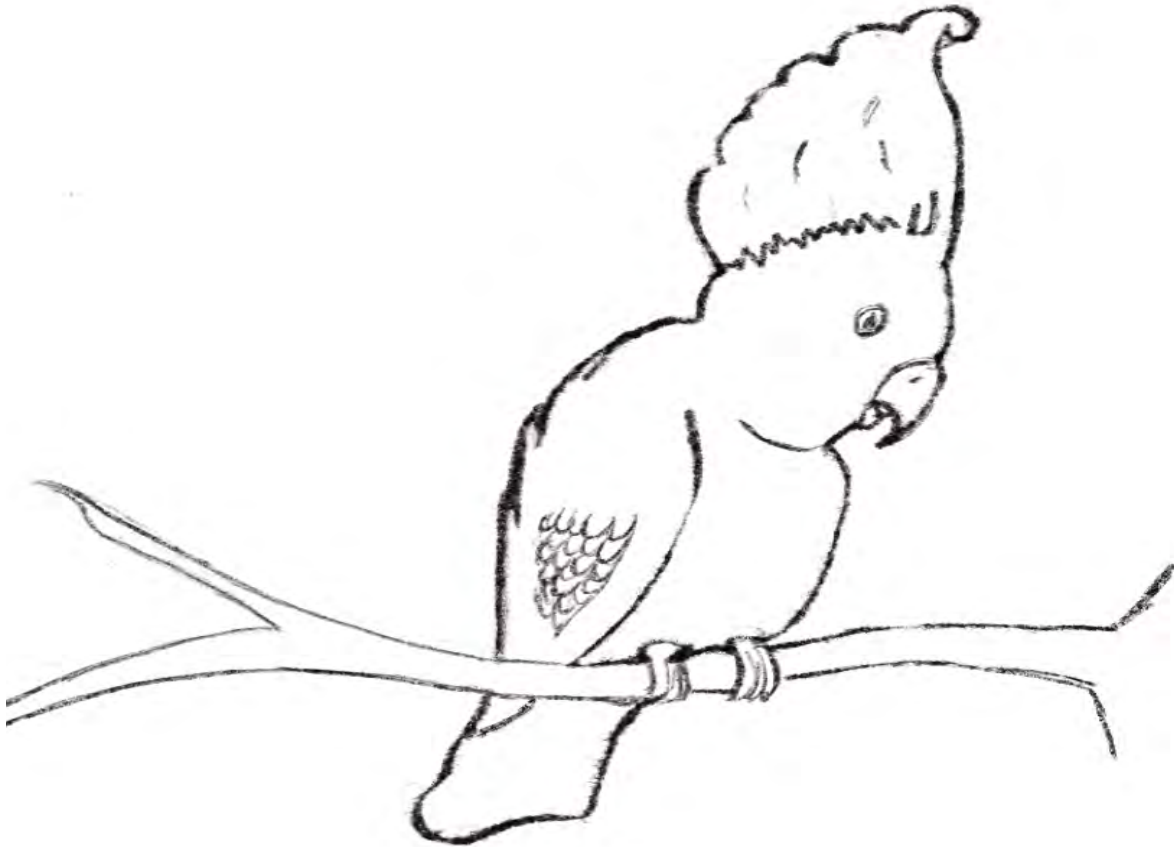
*Write the letter U*

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a line down to the bottom, curve around and back up to the top line.



# Umbrellabird



Did You know:

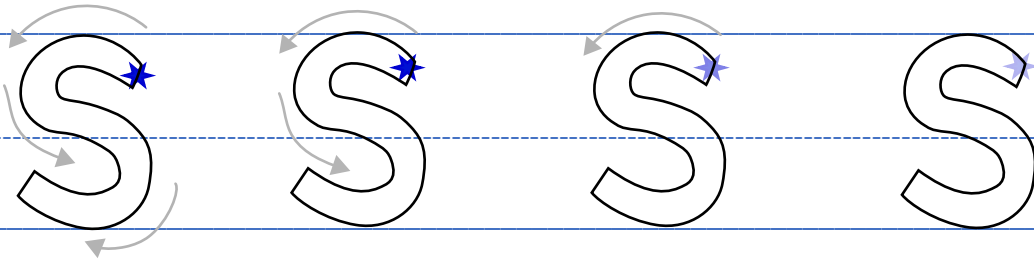
The umbrellabird lives in the rainforest high up in the canopy and is rarely seen in the open.

# S s

### Draw Inside the Lines

★ Start at the star.

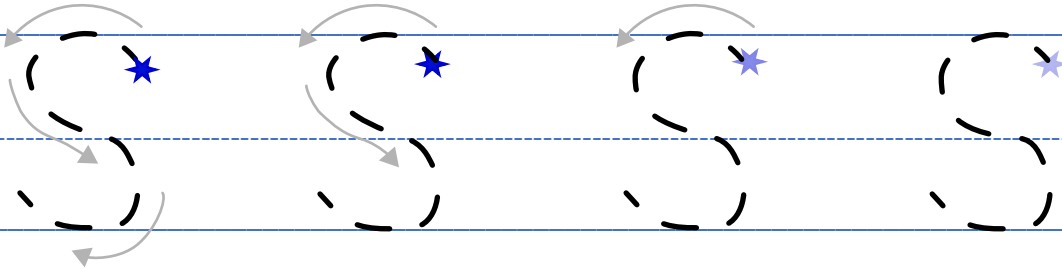
1. Draw a curved line up and around to the dashed middle line, then curve back to the line at the bottom.



### Connect the Dashed Lines

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a curved line up and around to the dashed middle line, then curve back to the line at the bottom.



### Draw the letter S

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a curved line up and around to the dashed middle line, then curve back to the line at the bottom.





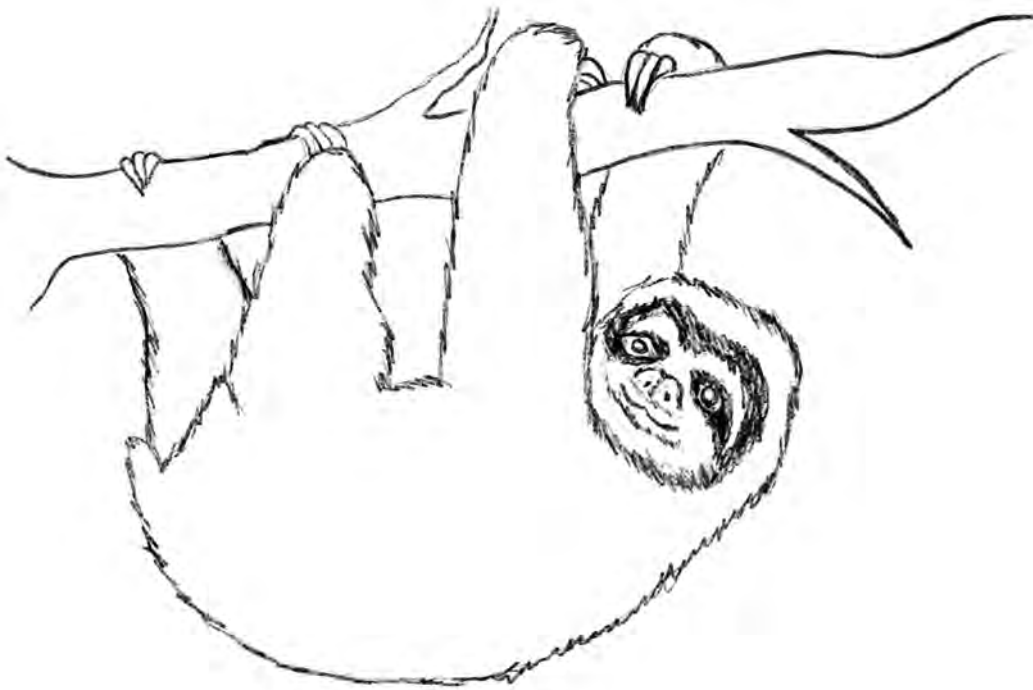
*Draw the Letter S*

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a curved line up and around to the dashed middle line, then curve back to the line at the bottom.



# Sloth

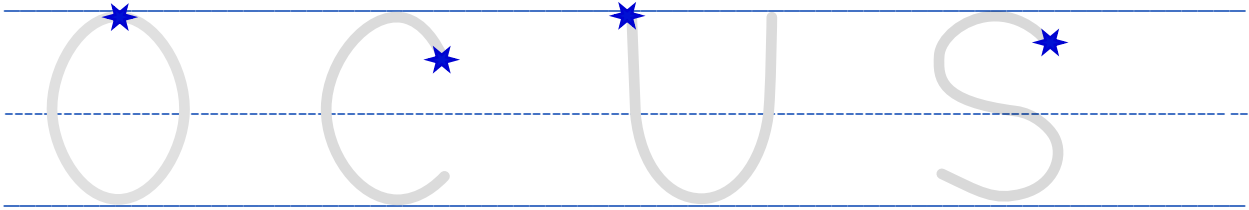


Did you know:

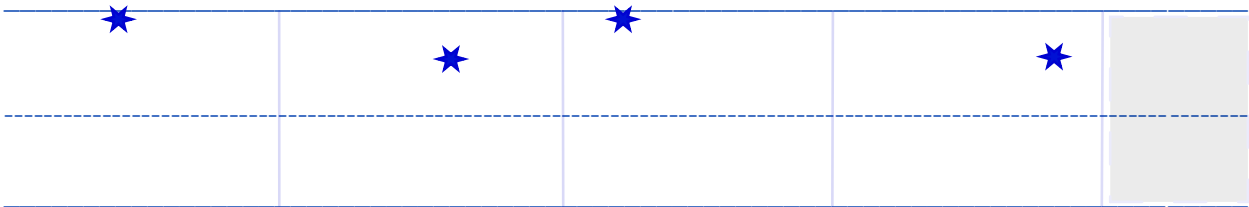
Sloths spend most of their lives hanging upside down.  
They eat, sleep, and raise their children hanging from a tree.

Write the Letters O, C, U, and S

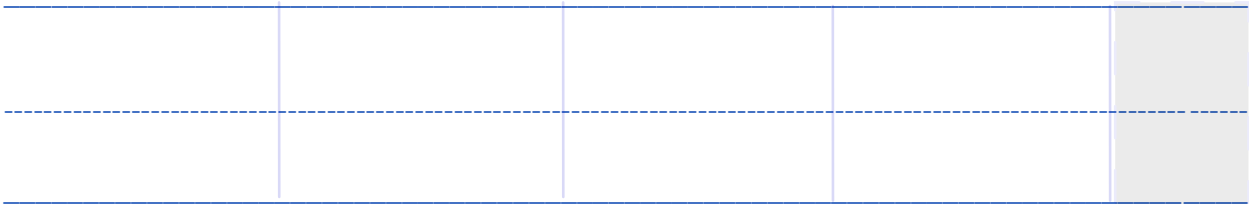
★ Start at the star.



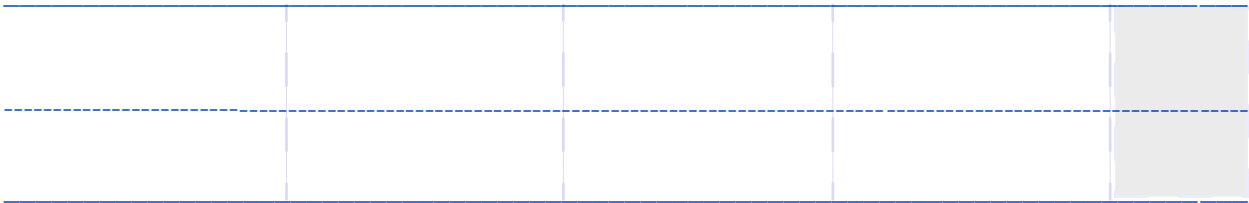
Write the Letters O, C, U, and S



Write the Letters O, C, U, and S



Write the Letters O, C, U, and S



Circle your best efforts.


*Circle your best efforts.*

# Chapter Two

Fluid

Letters

## **Chapter Two: Fluid Letters**

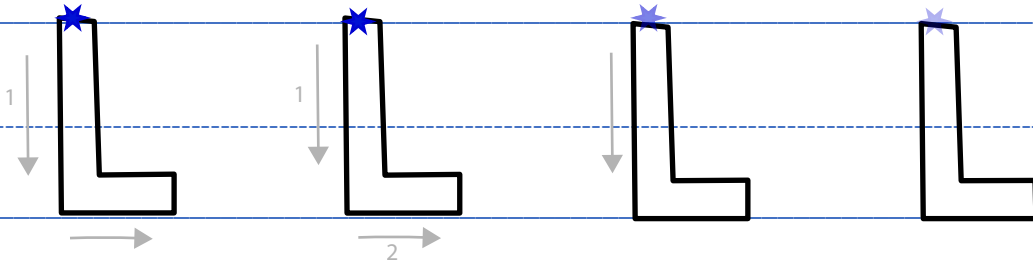
Chapter Two builds on the knowledge already learned with the starting point rule but slightly increases the difficulty by adding letters with a second stroke. With fluid letters, the second stroke fluidly follows the first stroke and continues where the first stroke ends. These letters include L, V, W, and Z.

Instructors should read aloud the instructions for each practice trial and note that students are beginning each letter at the correct starting point and continuing the next strokes fluidly and in the correct direction. Students are encouraged to practice writing each letter separately (blocked practice) and then practice the letters together (random practice). The last page in this chapter is a lined blank page. This page is provided for the instructor to randomly dictate the letters O, C, U, S, L, V, W, and Z for the student to practice writing letters from memory.



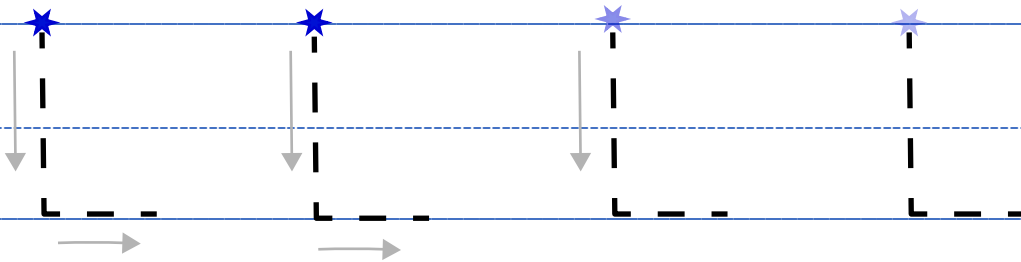
**Draw Inside the Lines**

- ★ Start at the star.
- 1. Draw a line down to the bottom.
- 2. Then draw a short line out to the side.



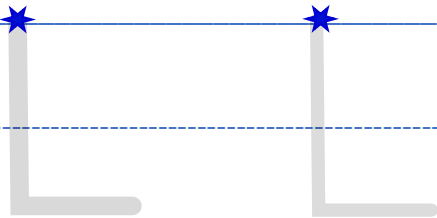
**Connect the Dashed Lines**

- ★ Start at the star.
- 1. Draw a line down to the bottom.
- 2. Then draw a short line out to the side.



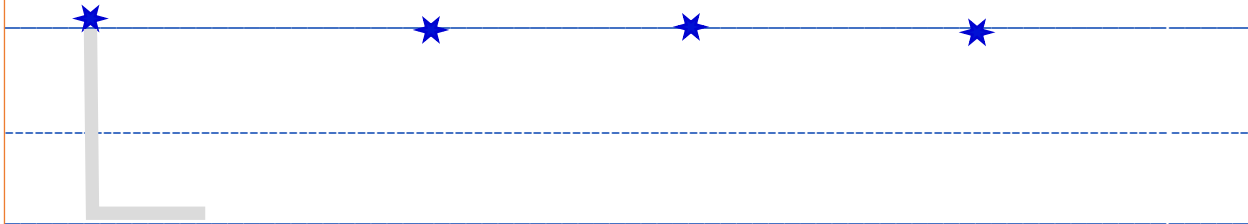
**Write the Letter L**

- ★ Start at the star.
- 1. Draw a line down to the bottom.
- 2. Then draw a short line out to the side.

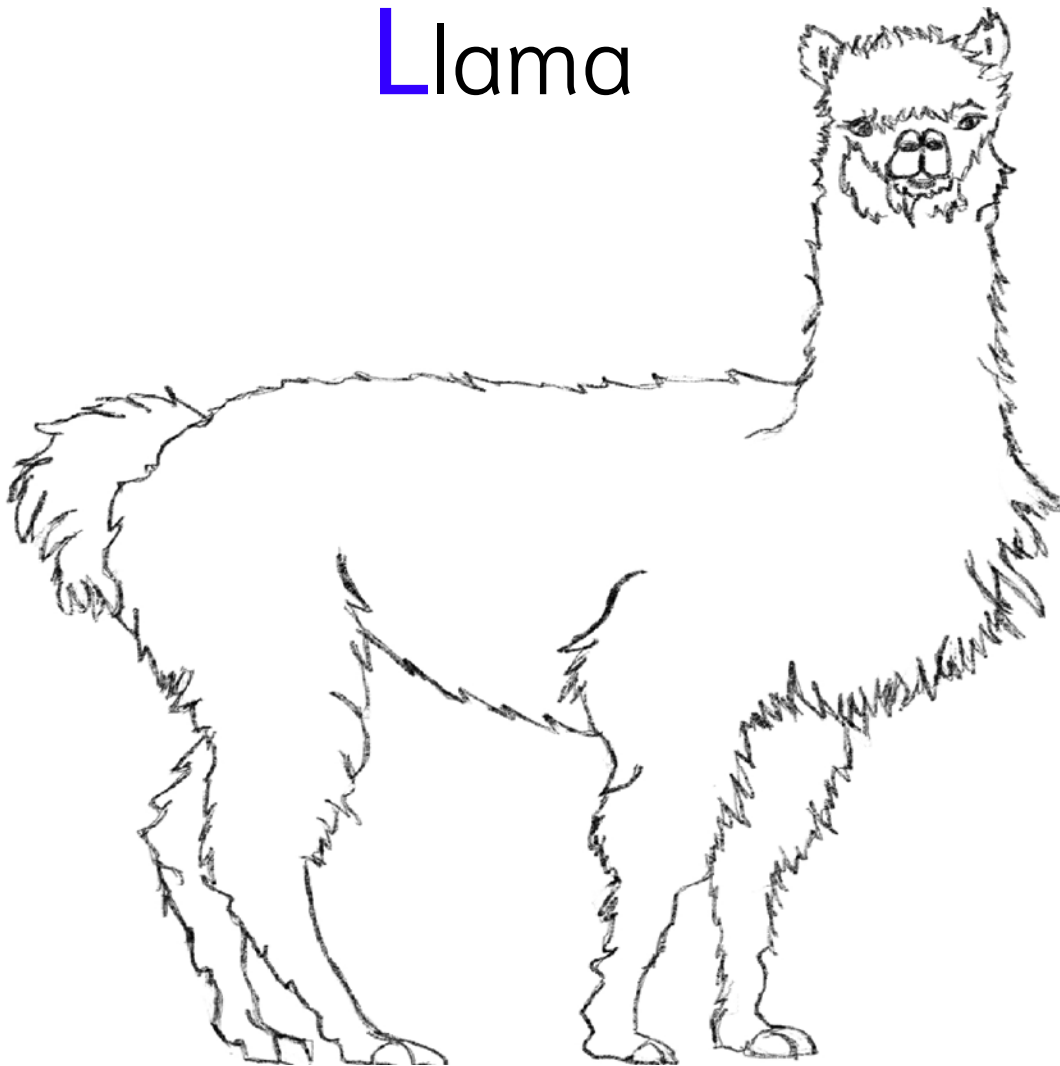


## Write the Letter L .

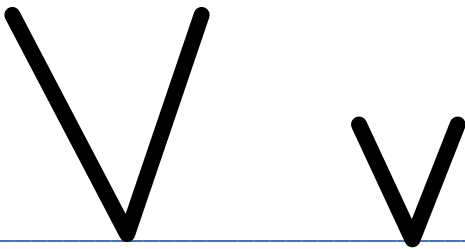
- ★ Start at the star.
- 1. Draw down to the bottom.
- 2. Then draw a short line out to the side.



Llama

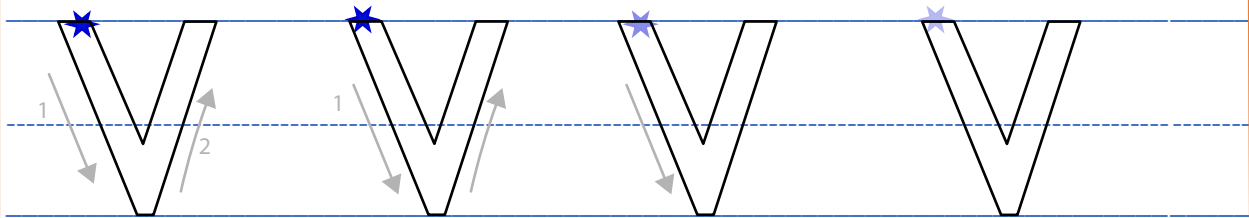


Did you know:  
Because of their calm nature llamas have been used as therapy animals.



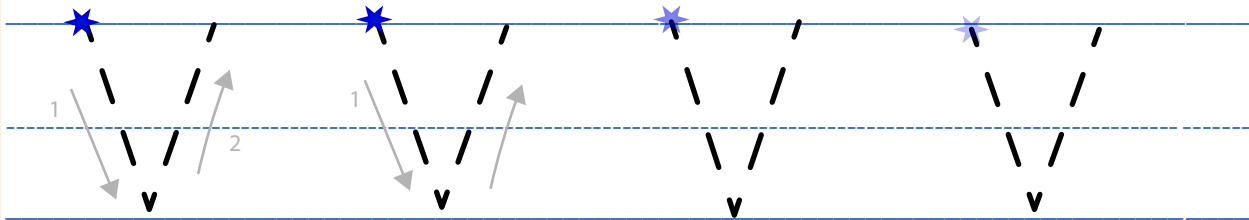
**Draw Inside the Lines**

- ★ Start at the star.
- 1. Draw a diagonal line down to the bottom.
- 2. Then draw a diagonal line back to the top.



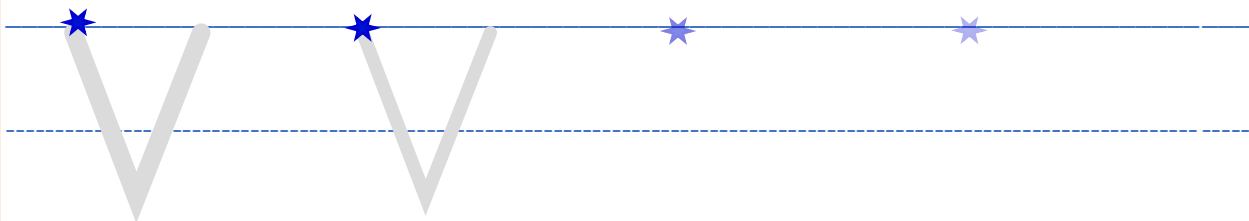
**Connect the Dashed Lines**

- ★ Start at the star.
- 1. Draw a diagonal line down to the bottom.
- 2. Then draw a diagonal line back to the top.



**Write the Letter V**

- ★ Start at the star.
- 1. Draw a diagonal line down to the bottom.
- 2. Then draw a diagonal line back to the top.

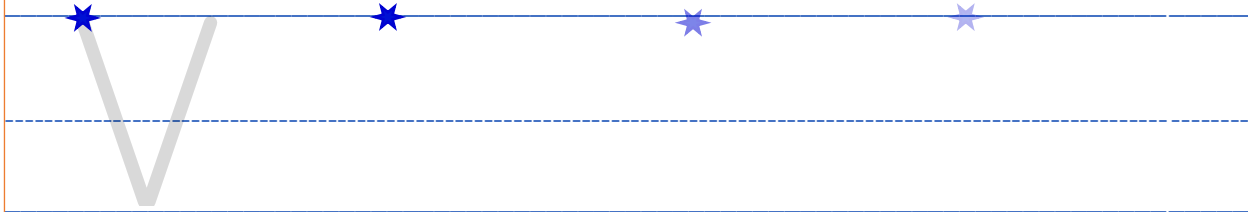




*Write the Letter V*

★ Start at the star.

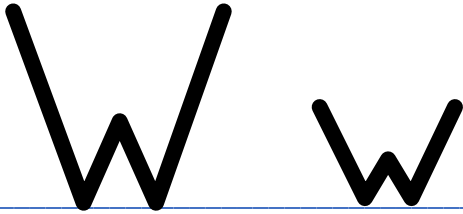
1. Draw a diagonal line down to the bottom.
2. Then draw a diagonal line back to the top.



Vole



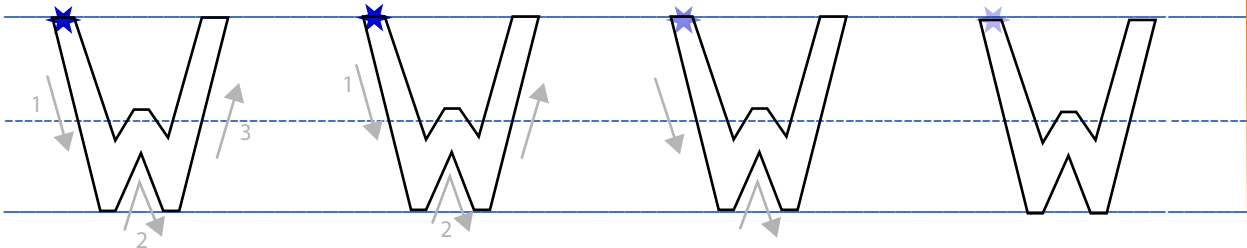
Did you know:  
Some North American voles are arboreal (live in the trees)  
and are excellent climbers.



**Draw Inside the Lines**

★ Start at the star.

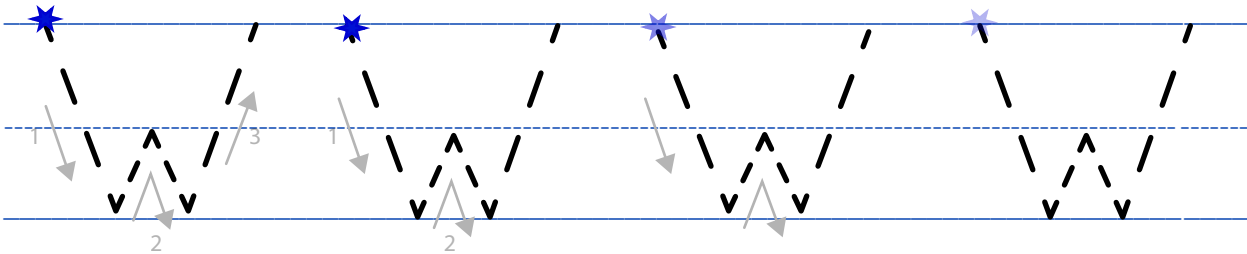
1. Draw a diagonal line down to the bottom.
2. Continue drawing a short diagonal line to the middle dashed line and then another diagonal line back to the bottom.
3. Continue drawing a diagonal line back to the top.



**Connect the Dashed Lines.**

★ Start at the star.

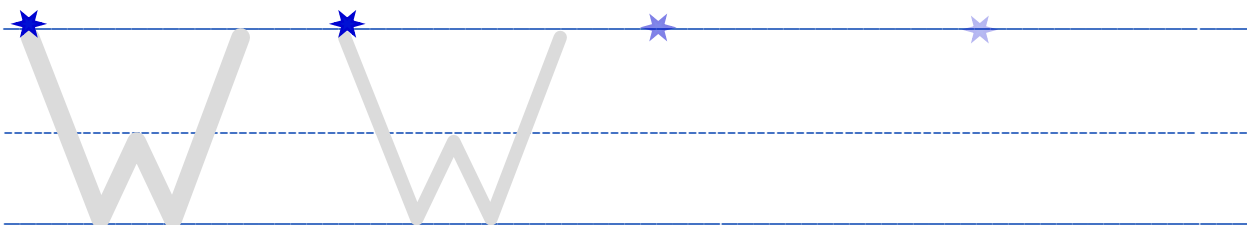
1. Draw a diagonal line down to the bottom.
2. Continue drawing a short diagonal line to the middle dashed line and then another diagonal line back to the bottom.
3. Continue drawing a diagonal line back to the top.



**Write the Letter W**

★ Start at the star.

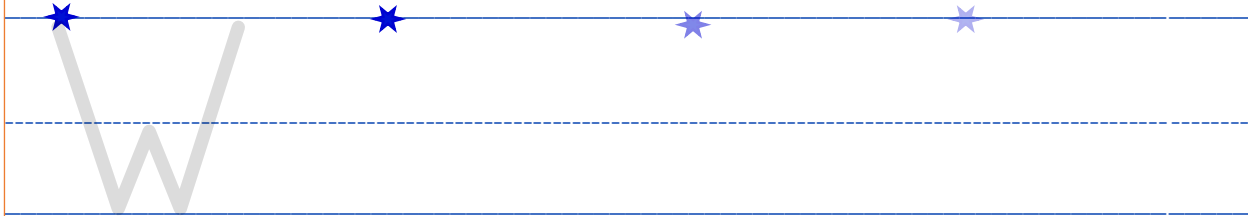
1. Draw a diagonal line down to the bottom.
2. Continue drawing a short diagonal line to the middle dashed line and then another diagonal line back to the bottom.
3. Continue drawing a diagonal line back to the top.



## Write the Letter W

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a diagonal line down to the bottom.
2. Continue drawing a short diagonal line to the middle dashed line and then another diagonal line back to the bottom.
3. Continue drawing a diagonal line back to the top.



# Wombat



Did you know:

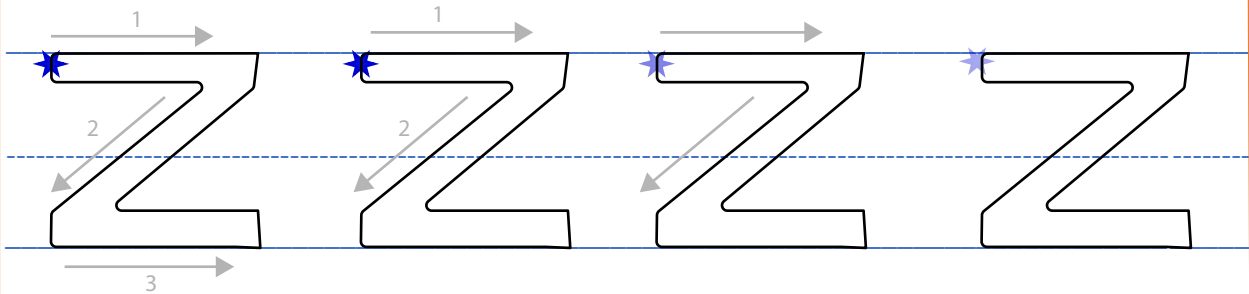
Wombats only live in Australia and Tasmania.  
They are marsupials and live mostly underground.

# Z z

### Draw Inside the Lines.

★ Start at the star.

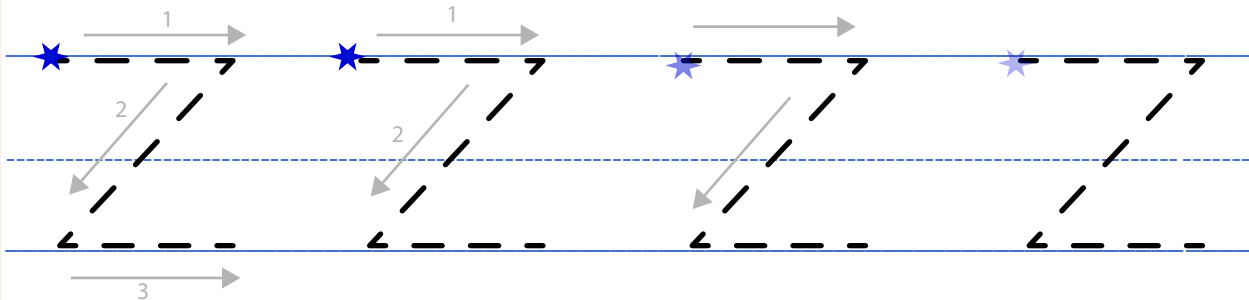
1. Draw a line across the top.
2. Then draw a diagonal line toward the front, down to the bottom.
3. Continue with a line across the bottom.



### Connect the Dashed Lines

★ Start at the star.

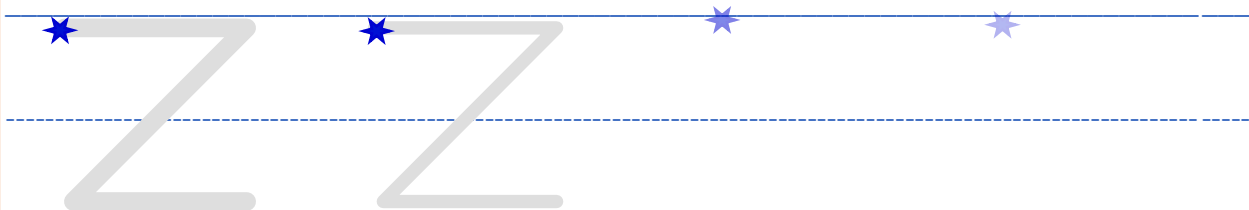
1. Draw a line across the top.
2. Then draw a diagonal line toward the front, down to the bottom.
3. Continue with a line across the bottom.



### Write the letter Z

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a line across the top.
2. Then draw a diagonal line toward the front, down to the bottom.
3. Continue with a line across the bottom.



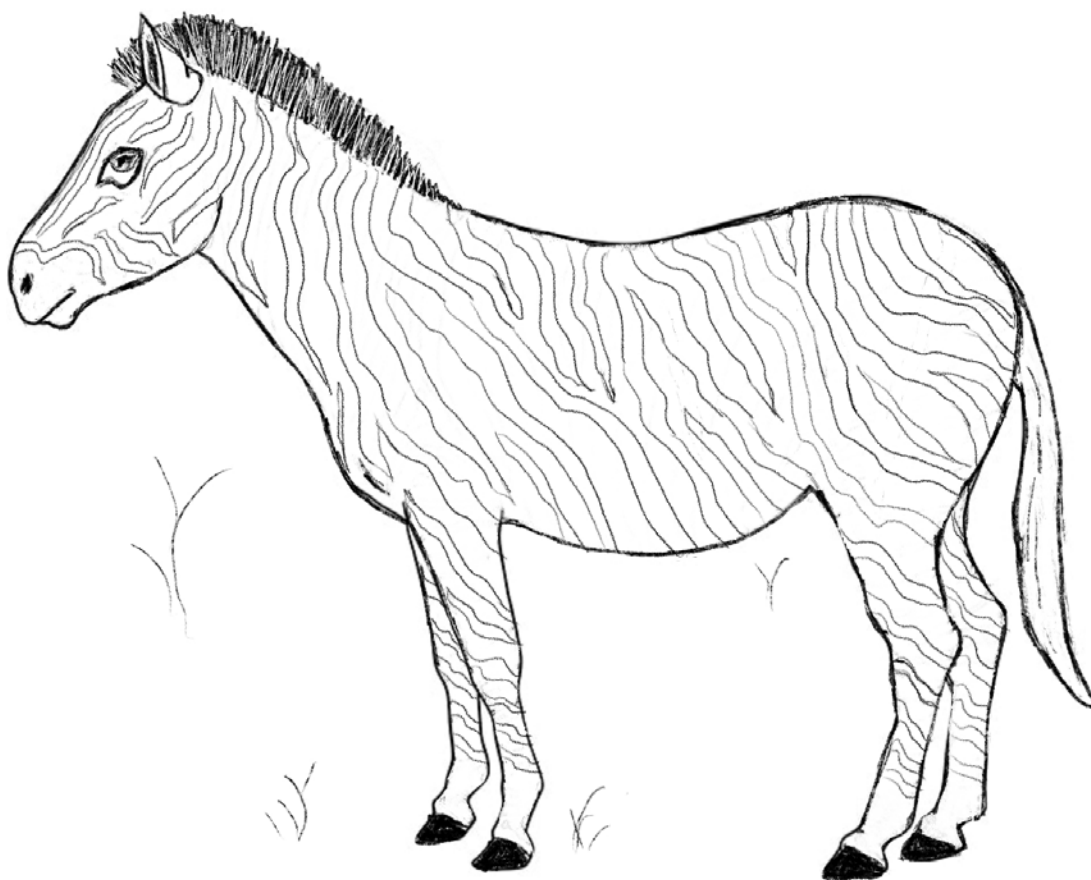
*Write the letter Z*

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a line across the top.
2. Then draw a diagonal line toward the front, down to the bottom.
3. Continue with a line across the bottom.



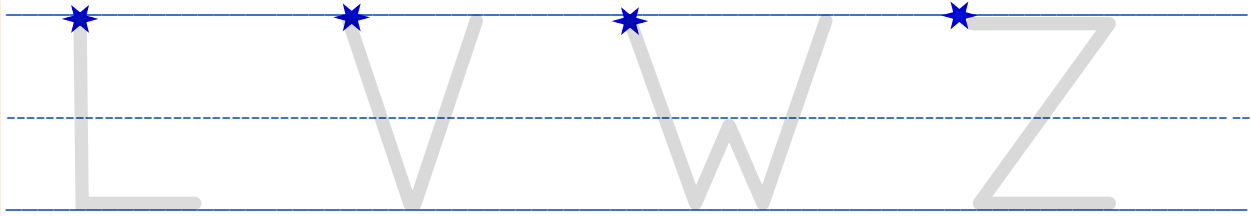
# Zebra



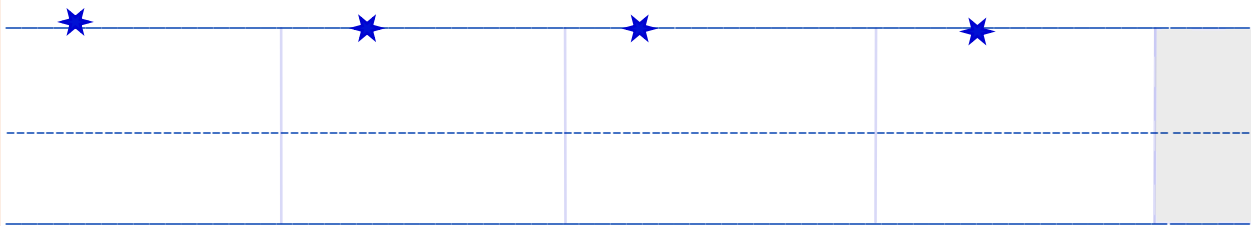
Did you know:  
Zebras are native to Africa.  
Every zebra has a unique stripe pattern.

*Write the Letters L, V, W, Z*

★ Start at the star.



*Write the Letters L, V, W, and Z*



*Write the Letters L, V, W, and Z*



*Write the Letters L, V, W, and Z*



*Circle your best efforts.*

**Write the Letters W, O, V, S**

**Write the Letters C, Z, U, L**

**Write the Letters S, O, Z, W**

**Write the Letters C, L, U, V**

**Circle your best efforts.**

***Circle your best efforts.***



# Chapter Three

Fixed

Letters

### **Chapter Three: Fixed Letters**

The focus in Chapter Three is on the fixed letters. The task difficulty for these letters is slightly increased because the second stroke starts back at the starting position of the first stroke. Therefore, students are required to lift the pencil from the paper and restart to continue the letter. Letters that follow the fixed principle include A, B, D, E, F, M, N, P, and R.

Because this grouping of letters is larger than the letters in the first two chapters, it is broken into smaller practice sections. These groupings are based on letter formation similarities. Students will first practice fixed letters that have a curved second stroke (D, P, B, and R) and then practice the fixed letters that have a straight line for the second stroke (N, M, E, F, and A).

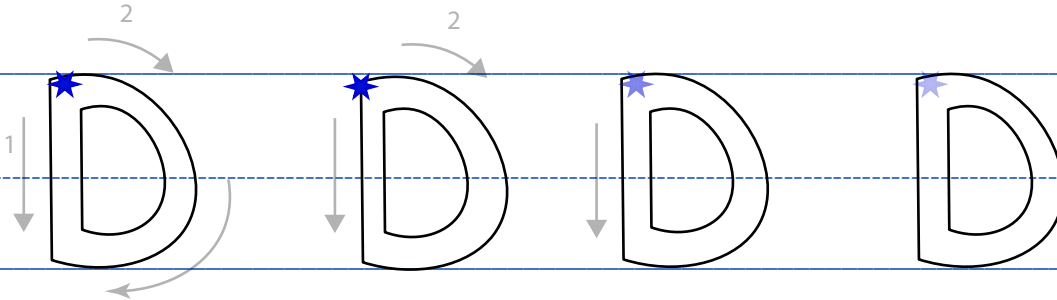
Instructors should read the instructions aloud for each practice trial and note that students are beginning each letter at the correct starting point, picking up the pencil to start the second stroke at the original starting point, and drawing subsequent strokes in the correct direction. Students are encouraged to practice writing each of these letters separately (blocked practice) and then practice the letters together (random practice). This chapter has two lined blank page to practice; one at the end of each letter grouping. These pages are provided for the instructor to randomly dictate the letters learned thus far (first O, C, U, S, L, V, W, Z, D, P, B, and R, and then O, C, U, S, L, V, W, Z, D, P, B, R, N, M, F, and A) for the student to practice writing letters from memory.

# D d

### Draw Inside the Lines

★ Start at the star.

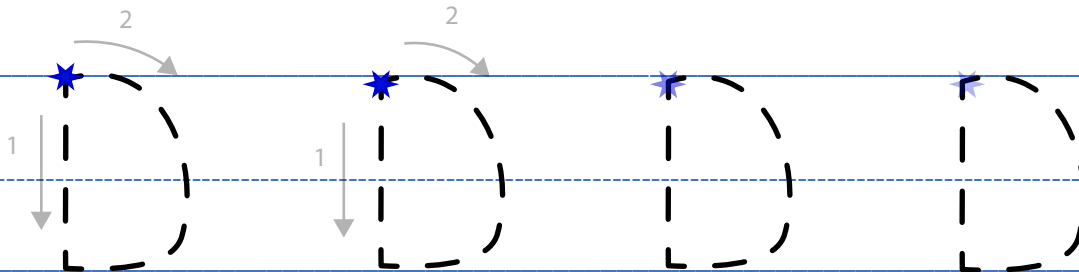
1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a curved line to the bottom of the first line.



### Connect the Dashed Lines

★ Start at the star.

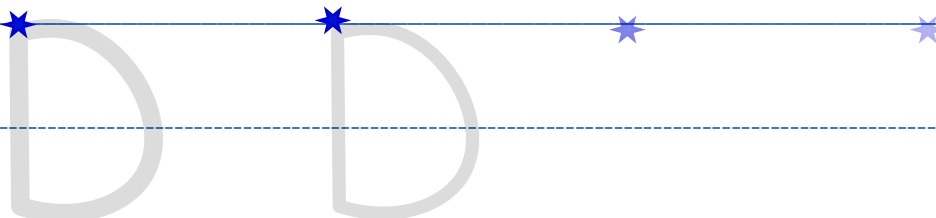
1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a curved line to the bottom of the first line.



### Write the Letter

★ Start at the star.

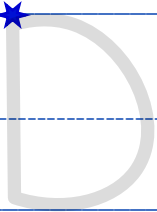
1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a curved line to the bottom of the first line.



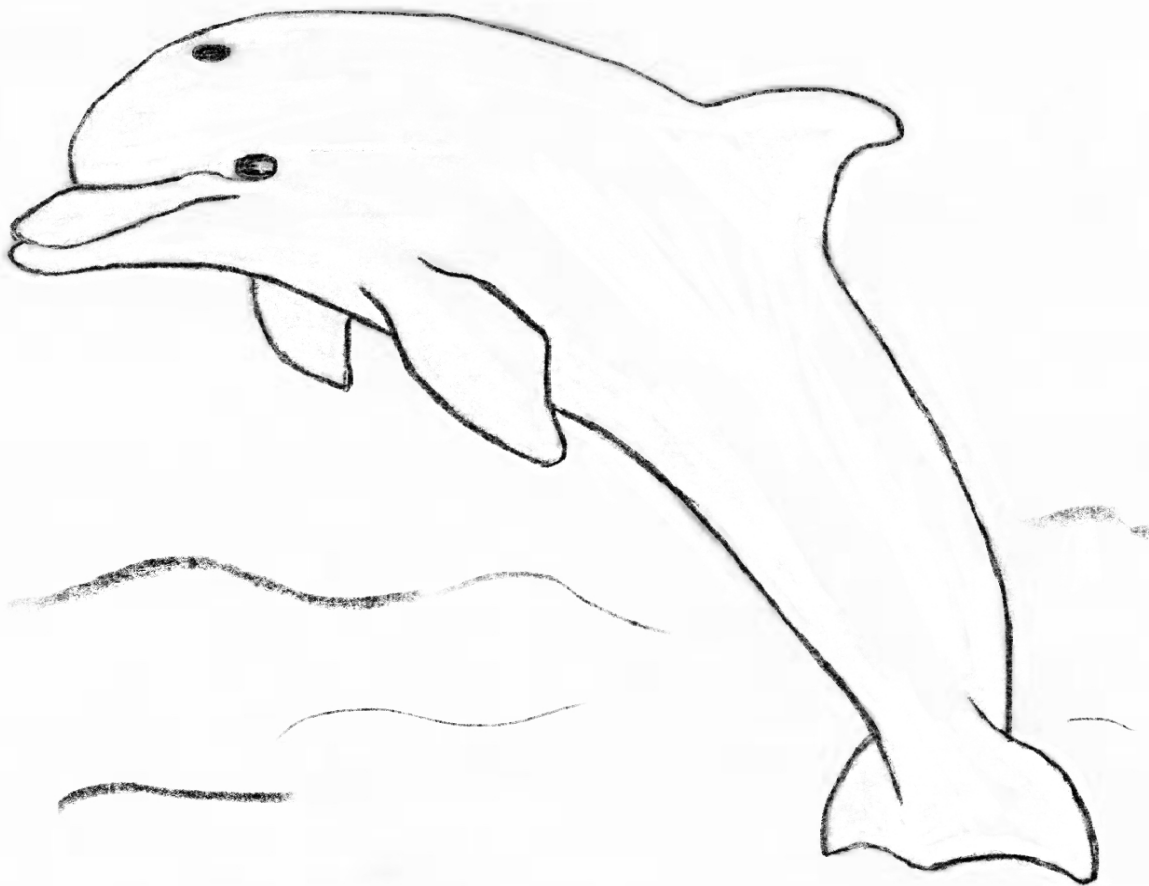
*Write the letter D.*

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a curved line to the bottom of the first line.

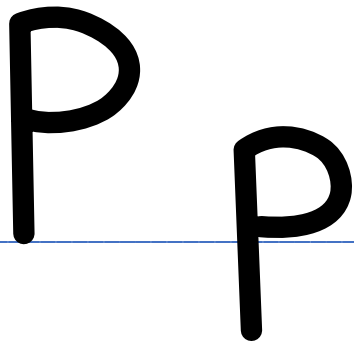


# Dolphin



Did you know:

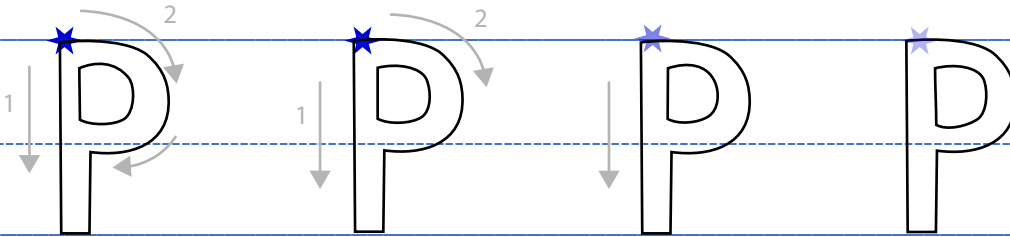
Dolphins are social mammals and live in groups of up to 30 called pods.



**Draw Inside the Lines**

★ Start at the star.

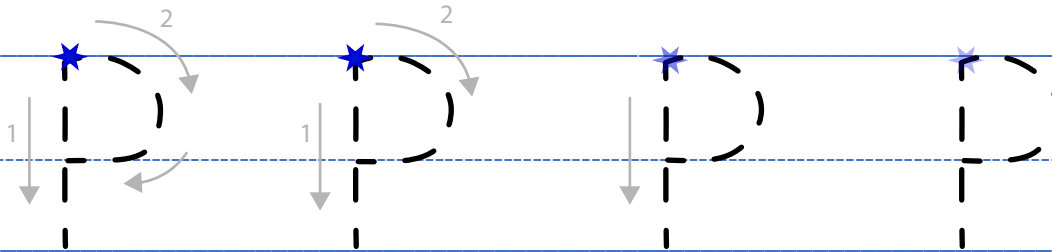
1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a curved line around to the dashed middle line and touch the first line.



**Connect the Dashed Lines**

★ Start at the star.

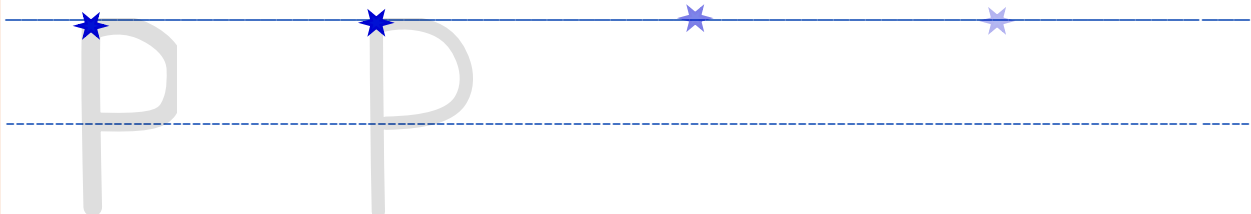
1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a curved line around to the dashed middle line and touch the first line.



**Write the Letter P**

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a curved line around to the dashed middle line and touch the first line.



*Write the Letter P*

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.

2. Hop to the top and draw a curved line around to the dashed middle line and touch the first line.

P

# Platypus



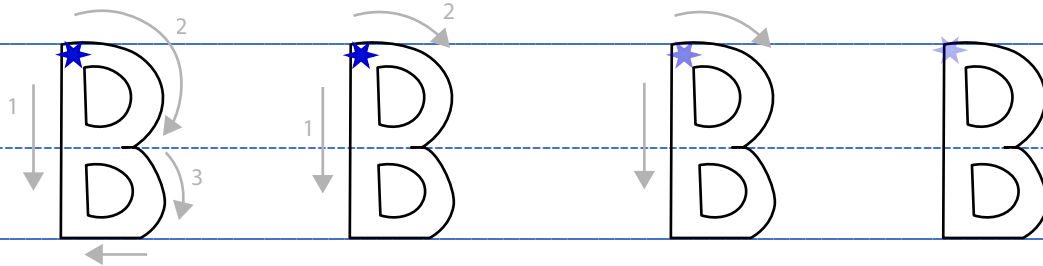
Did you know:  
Platypuses are semi-aquatic mammals that lay eggs.

# B b

## Draw Inside the Lines

★ Start at the star.

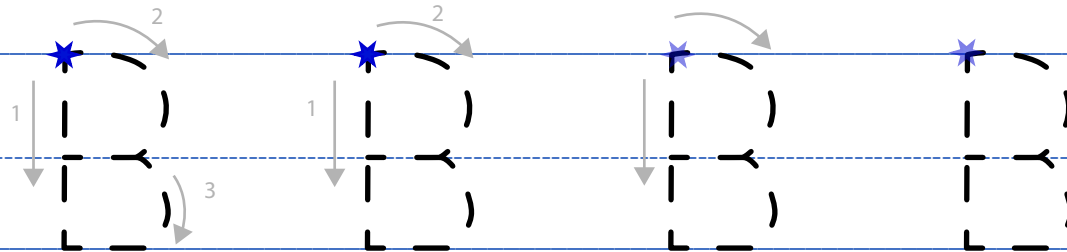
1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a curved line around to the dashed middle line and touch the first line.
3. Draw another curved line down and around to the bottom and touch the first line.



## Connect the Dashed Lines

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a curved line around to the dashed middle line and touch the first line.
3. Draw another curved line down and around to the bottom and touch the first line.



## Write the Letter B

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a curved line around to the dashed middle line and touch the first line.
3. Draw another curved line down and around to the bottom and touch the first line.



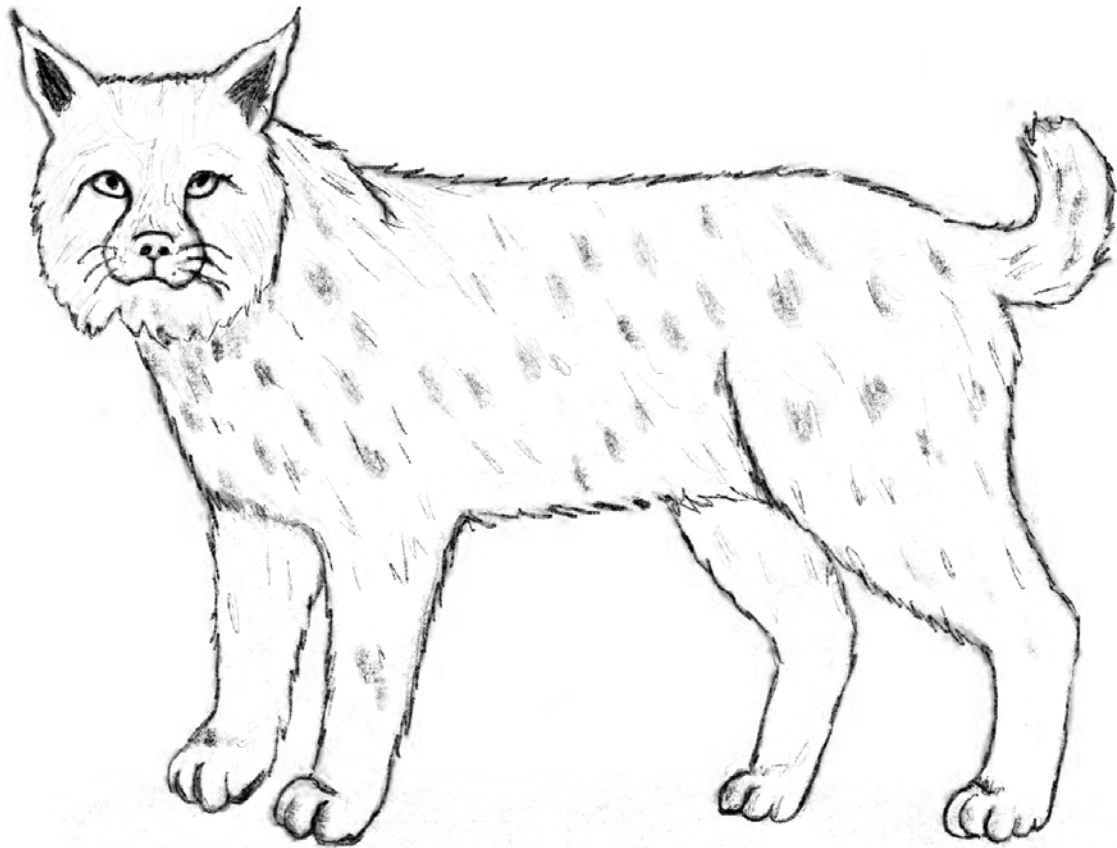
*Write the Letter B*

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a curved line around to the dashed middle line and touch the first line.
3. Draw another curved line down and around to the bottom and touch the first line.

B

# Bobcat



Did you know:

Bobcats are native to North America.

They are called bobcats because they have short “bobbed” tails.

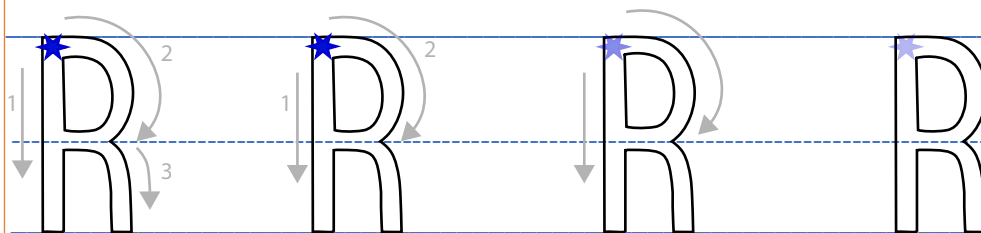


# R r

## Draw Inside the Lines

★ Start at the star.

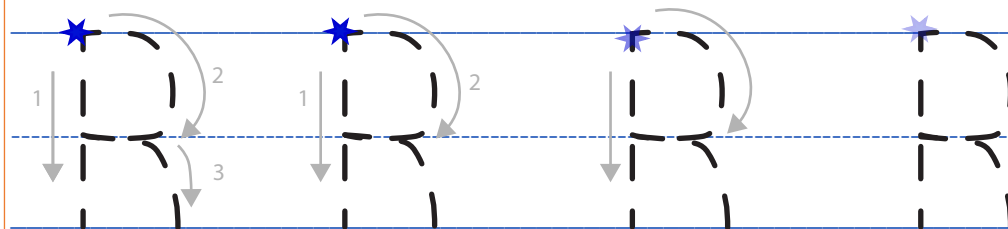
1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a curved line around to the dashed middle line and back to the first line.
3. Draw a curved line down to the bottom.



## Connect the Dashed Lines

★ Start at the star.

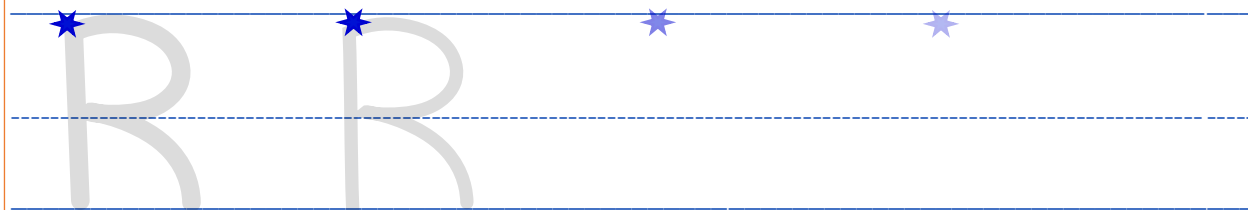
1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a curved line around to the dashed middle line and back to the first line.
3. Draw a curved line down to the bottom.



## Write the Letter R

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a curved line around to the dashed middle line and back to the first line.
3. Draw a curved line down to the bottom.



Write the Letter R

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a curved line around to the dashed middle line and back to the first line.
3. Draw a curved line down to the bottom.

R

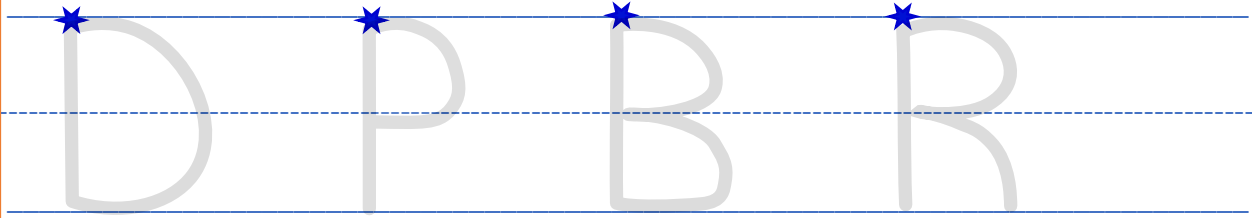
# Raccoon



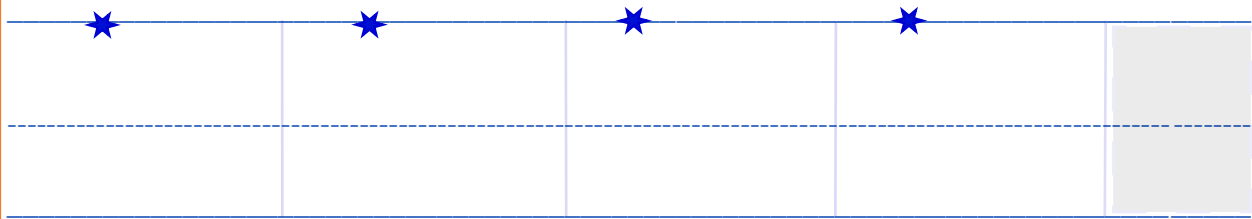
Did you know:  
Raccoons are nocturnal and have excellent night vision.

*Write the Letters D, P, B, and R*

★ Start at the star.



*Write the Letters D, P, B, and R*



*Write the Letters D, P, B, and R*



*Write the Letters D, P, B, and R*



*Circle your best efforts.*

*Write the Letters D, O, V, R*

*Write the Letters C, P, U, B*

*Write the Letters S, O, Z, D*

*Write the Letters B, L, P, R*

*Circle your best efforts.*

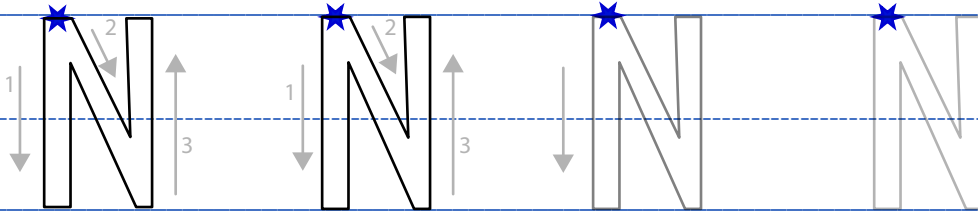

**Circle your best efforts.**

# N n

### Draw Inside the Lines

★ Start at the star.

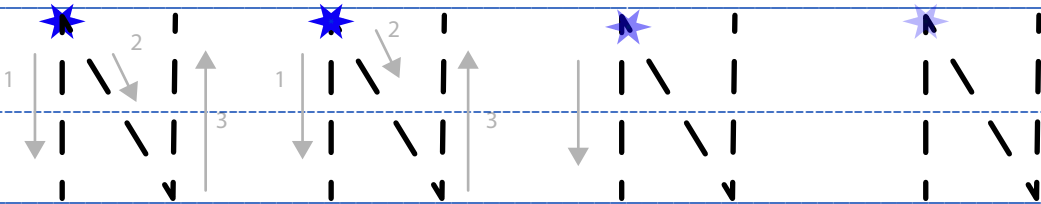
1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a diagonal line back to the bottom and then draw a straight line back to the top.



### Connect the Dashed Lines

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a diagonal line back to the bottom and then draw a straight line back to the top.



### Write the Letter N

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a diagonal line back to the bottom and then draw a straight line back to the top.

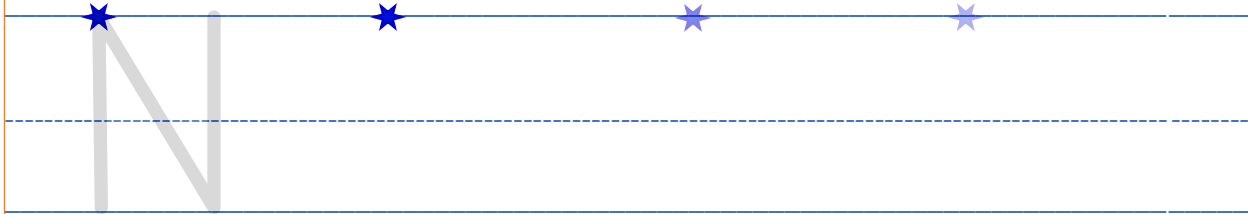


## Write the Letter N

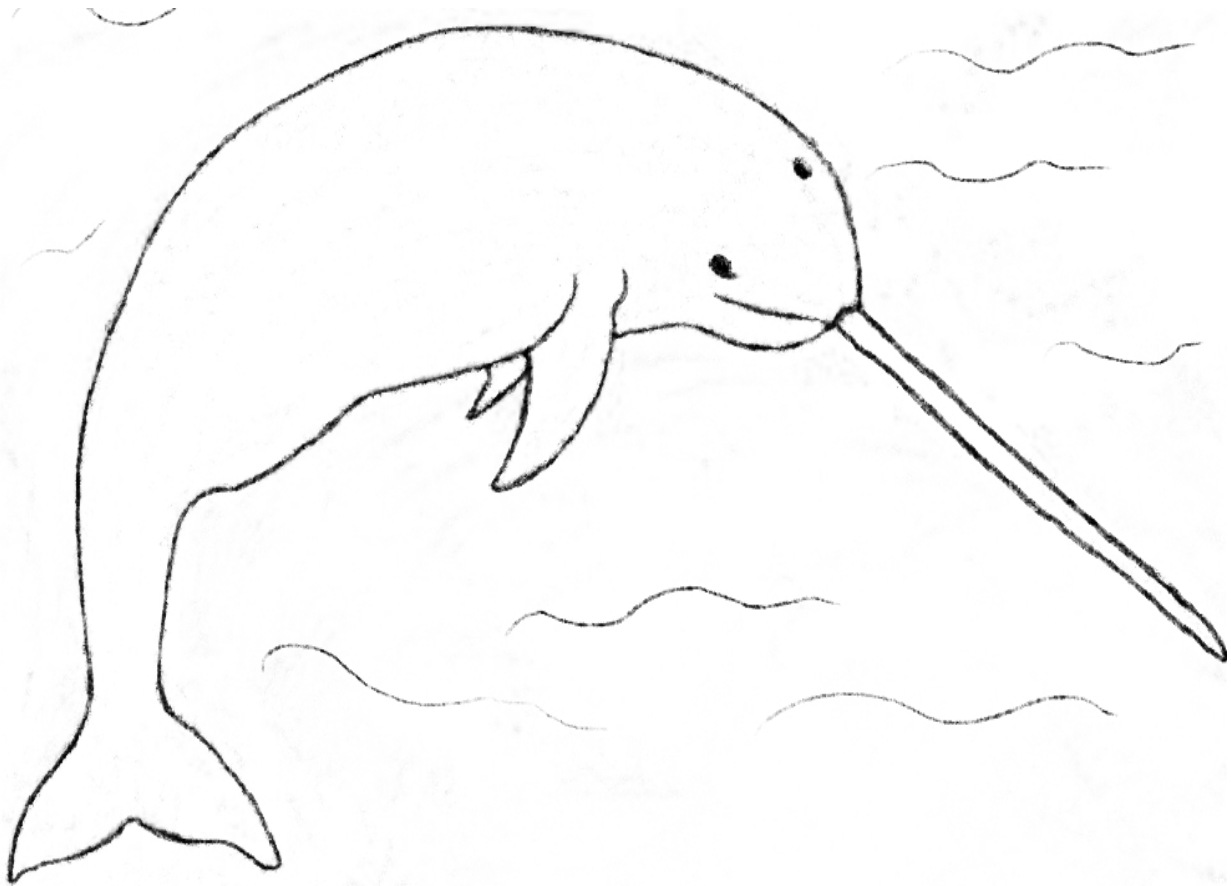
★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.

2. Hop to the top and draw a diagonal line back to the bottom and then draw a straight line back to the top.



# Narwhal



Did you know:

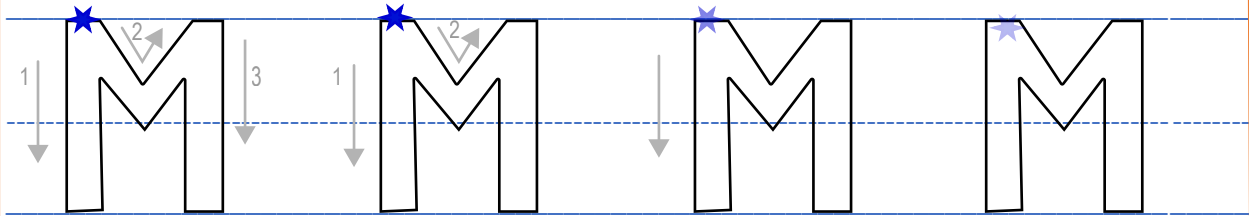
Narwhals have been called the “unicorns of the sea” because of their large tusk.  
A narwhal’s tusk is actually an enlarged tooth that juts out from the head.

# M m

### Draw Inside the Lines

★ Start at the star.

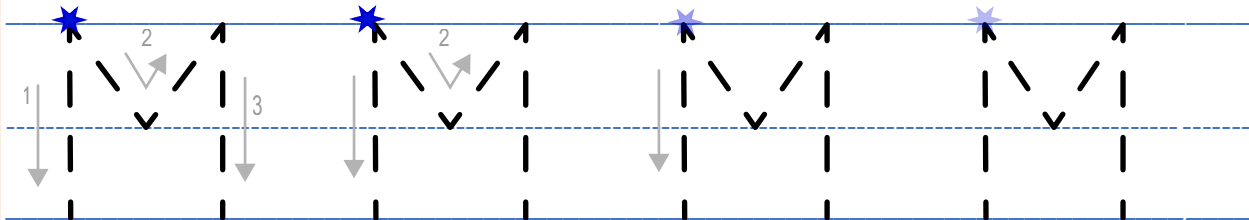
1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a short diagonal line down to the dashed middle line, and then a short diagonal line up to the top.
3. Continue drawing a straight line down to the bottom.



### Connect the Dashed Lines

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a short diagonal line down to the dashed middle line, and then a short diagonal line up to the top.
3. Draw a straight line to the bottom.



### Write the Letter M

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a short diagonal line down to the dashed middle line, and then a short diagonal line up to the top.
3. Draw a straight line to the bottom.

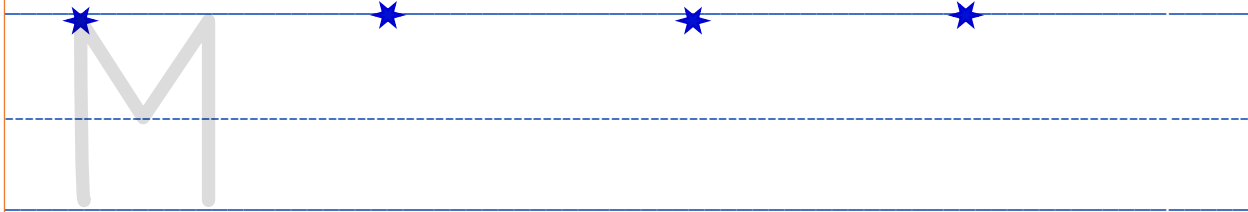




*Write the letter M.*

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a short diagonal line down to the dashed middle line, and then a short diagonal line up to the top.
3. Draw a straight line to the bottom.



**M**oose



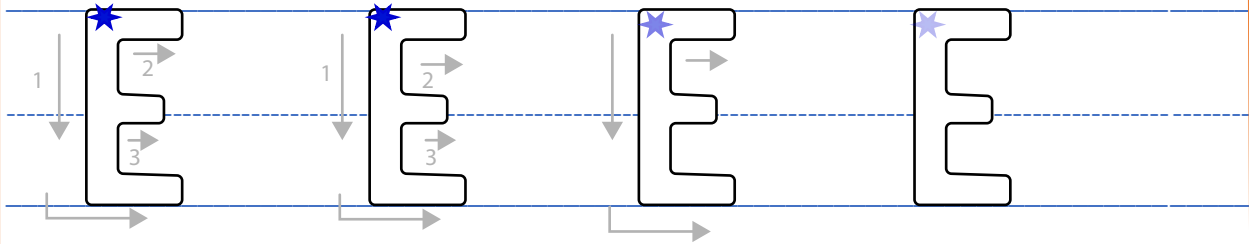
Did you know:  
Only the male moose have antlers.

# E e

## Draw Inside the Lines

★ Start at the star.

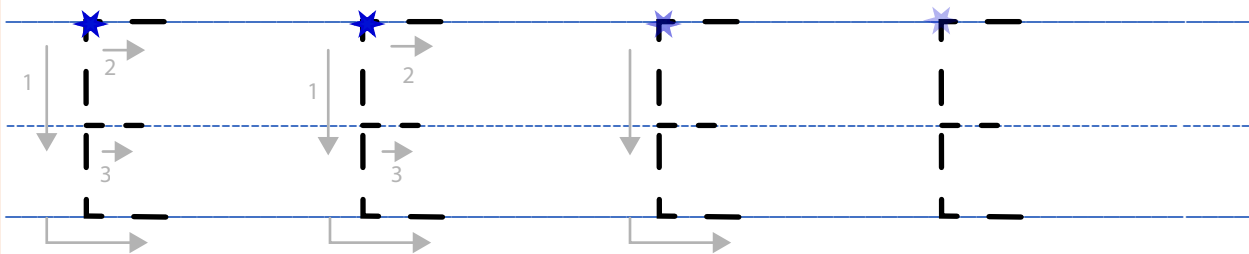
1. Draw a straight line down to the bottom, then a short line across the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw another short line across the top.
3. Hop to the middle dashed line and draw the shortest line.



## Connect the Dashed Lines

★ Start at the star.

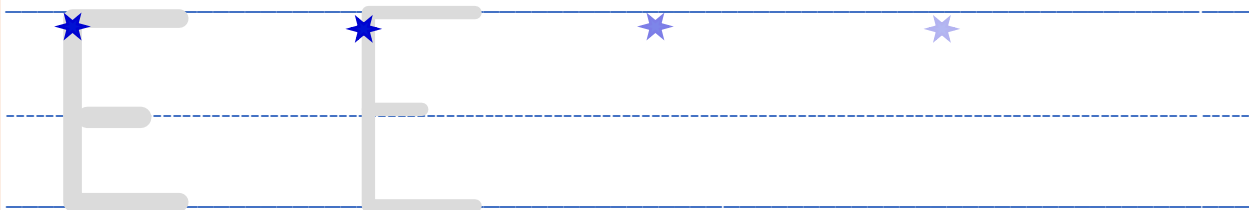
1. Draw a straight line down to the bottom, then a short line across the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw another short line across the top.
3. Hop to the middle dashed line and draw the shortest line.



## Write the Letter E.

★ Start at the star.

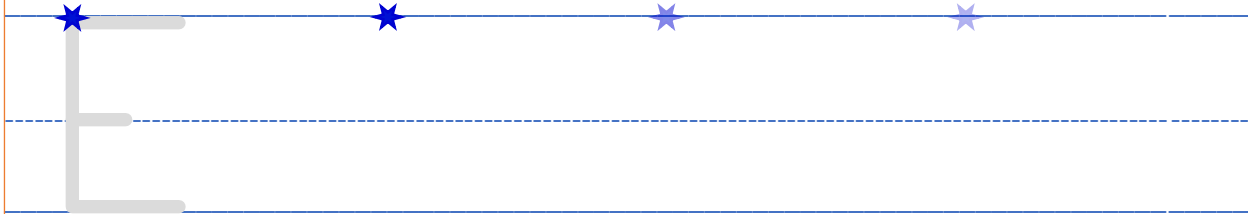
1. Draw a straight line down to the bottom, then a short line across the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw another short line across the top.
3. Hop to the middle dashed line and draw the shortest line.



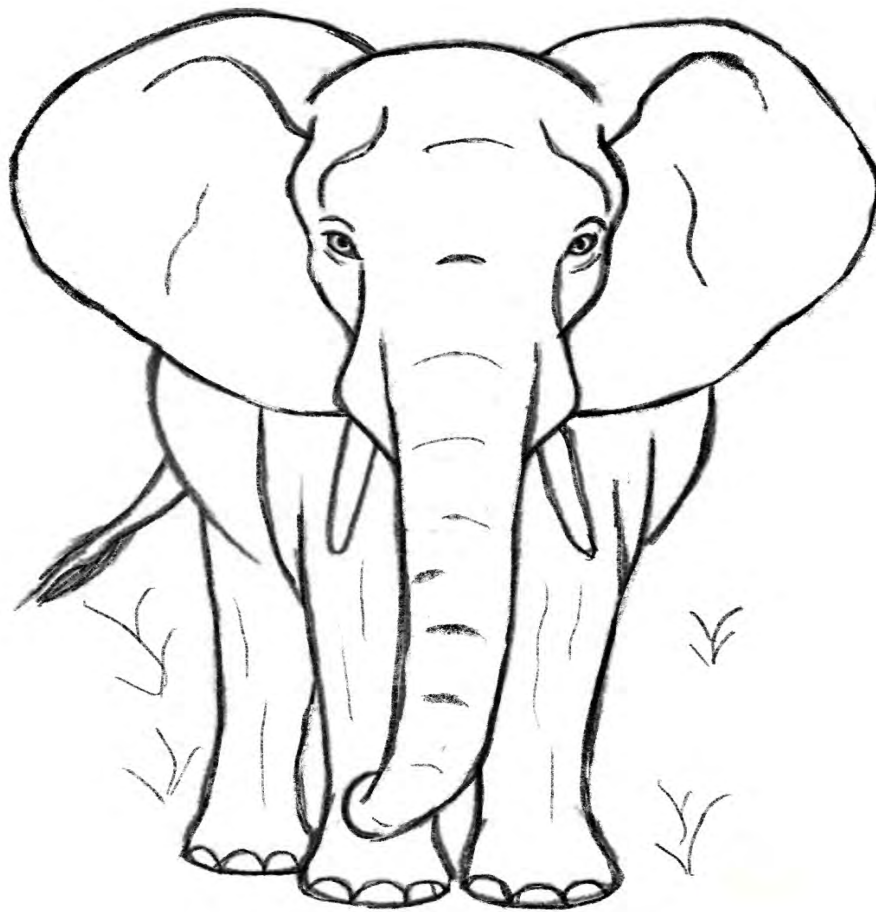
*Write the letter E*

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a straight line down to the bottom, then a short line across the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw another short line across the top.
3. Hop to the middle dashed line and draw the shortest line.



# Elephant



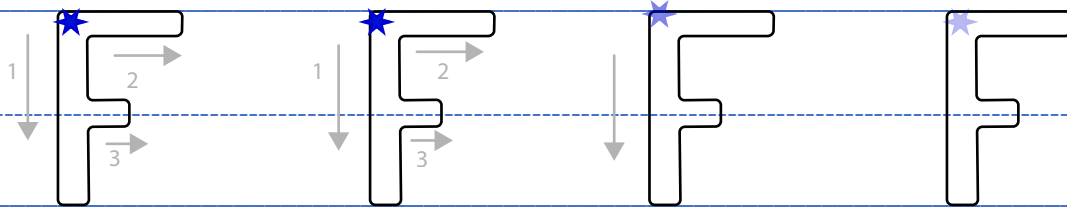
Did you know:  
Elephants spend about 22 hours a day eating.

# F f

## Draw Inside the Lines

★ Start at the star.

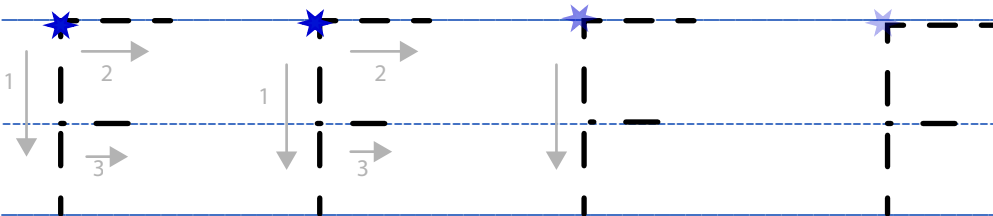
1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a short line across the top.
3. Hop to the dashed middle line and draw the shortest line.



## Connect the Dashed Lines

★ Start at the star.

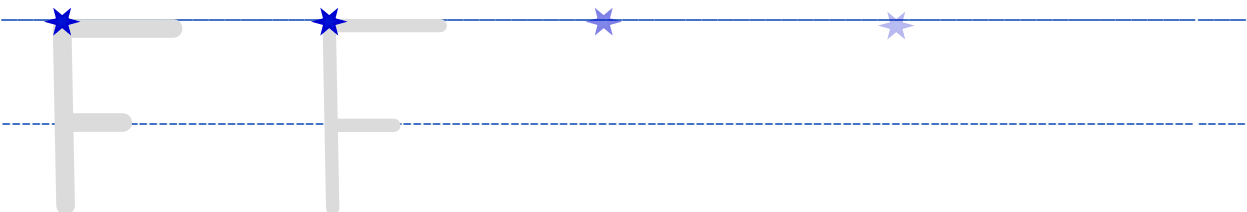
1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a short line across the top.
3. Hop to the dashed middle line and draw the shortest line.



## Write the Letter F

★ Start at the star

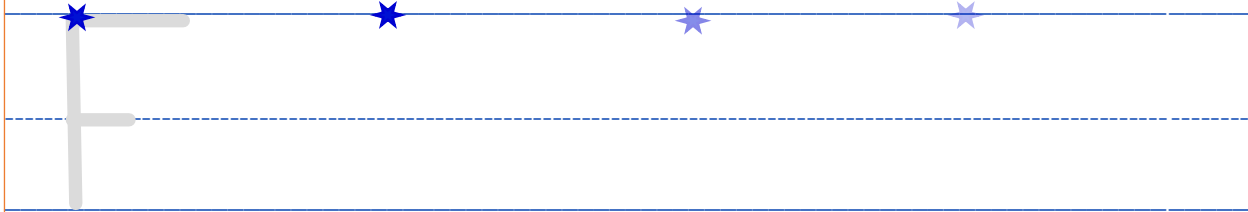
1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a short line across the top.
3. Hop to the dashed middle line and draw the shortest line.



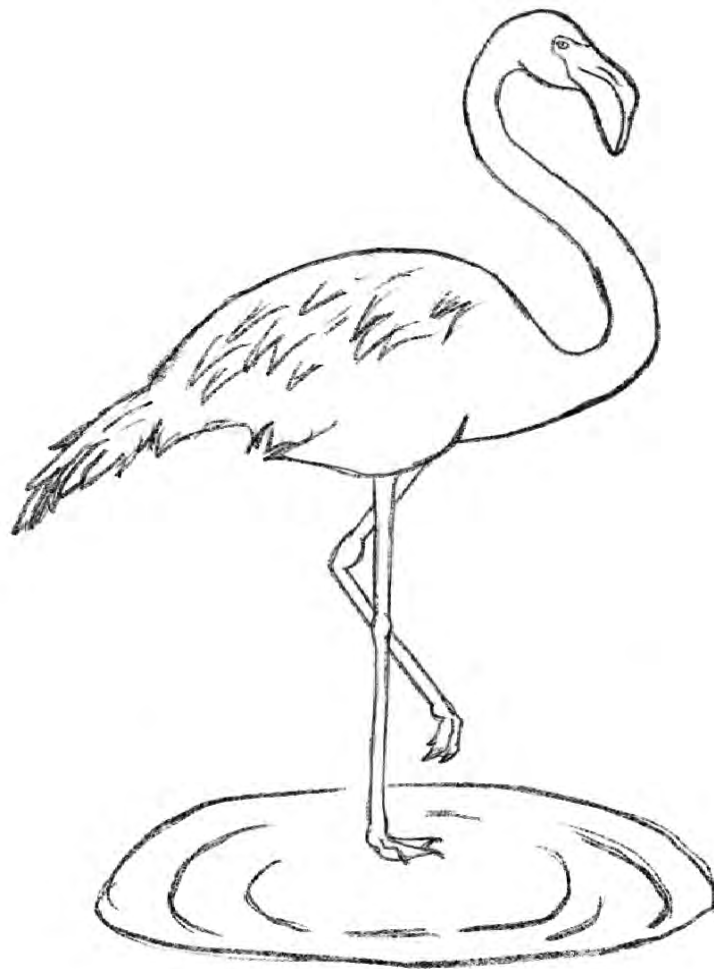
*Write the Letter F*

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a short line across the top.
3. Hop to the dashed middle line and draw the shortest line.



# F flamingo



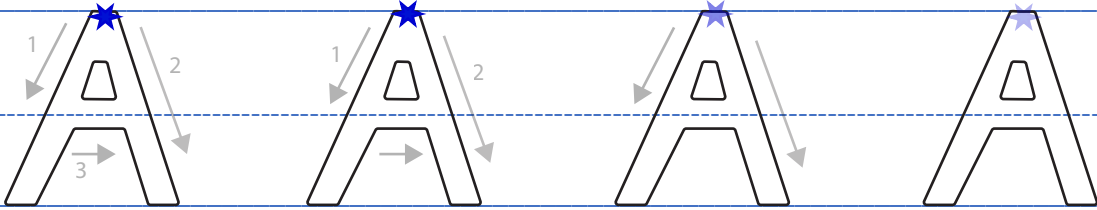
Did you know:  
Flamingos have pink feathers because they eat a lot of shrimp.

# A a

## Draw Inside the Lines

★ Start at the star.

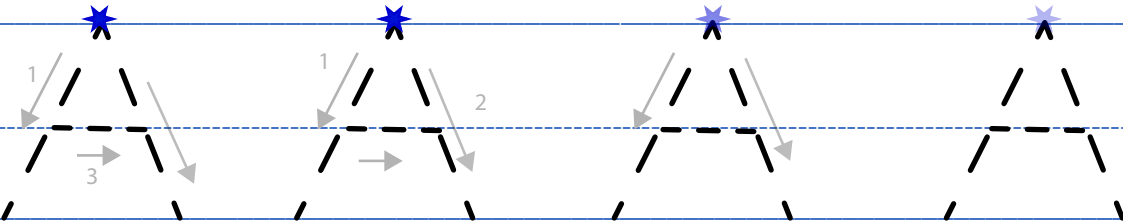
1. Draw a slanted line down slightly toward the red start line all the way to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a slanted line in the other direction all the way down to the bottom.
3. Connect the two slanted lines with a straight line on the dashed middle line.



## Connect the Dashed Lines

★ Start at the star.

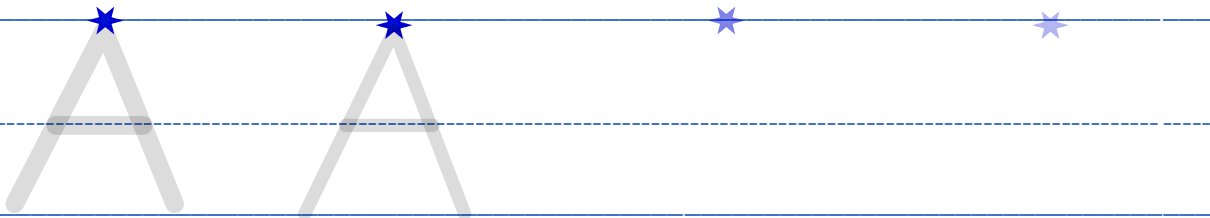
1. Draw a slanted line down slightly toward the red start line, all the way to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a slanted line in the other direction all the way down to the bottom.
3. Connect the two slanted lines with a straight line on the dashed middle line.



## Write the Letter A

★ Start at the star.

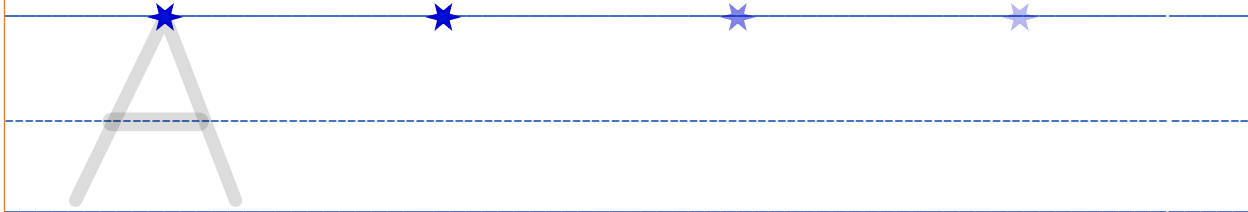
1. Draw a slanted line down slightly toward the red start line, all the way to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a slanted line in the other direction all the way down to the bottom.
3. Connect the two slanted lines with a straight line on the dashed middle line.



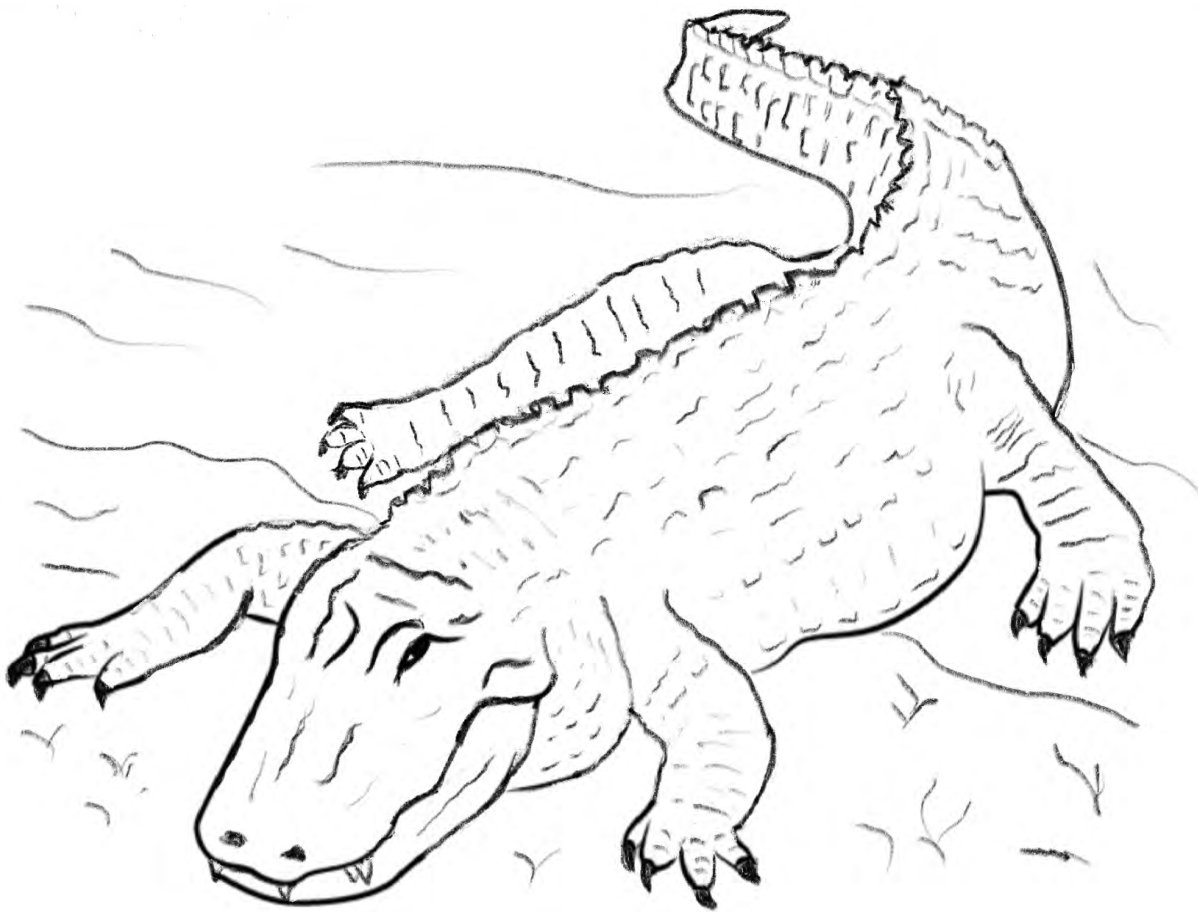
**Write the Letter A**

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a slanted line down slightly toward the red start line, all the way to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top and draw a slanted line in the other direction all the way down to the bottom.
3. Connect the two slanted lines with a straight line on the dashed line.



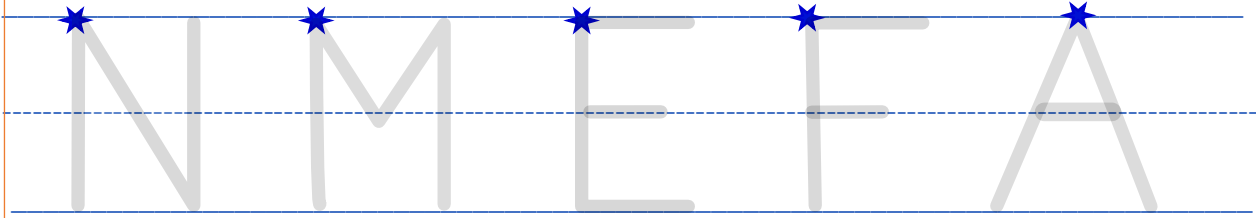
# Alligator



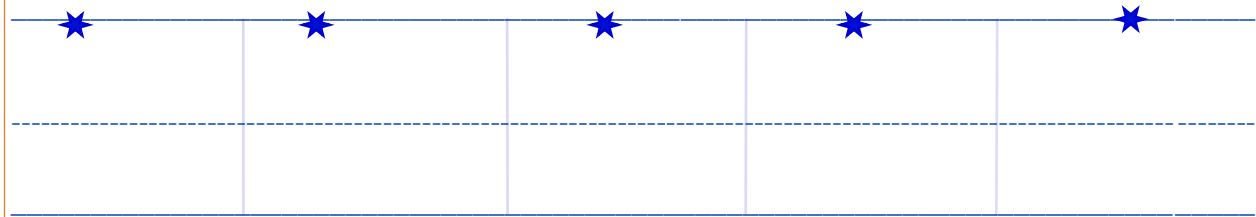
Did you know:  
Alligators have two sets of eyelids and multiple stomachs.

*Write the Letters N, M, E, F and A*

★ Start at the star.



*Write the Letters N, M, E, and F*



*Write the Letters N, M, E, and F*



*Write the Letters N, M, E, and F*



*Circle your best efforts.*



**Write the Letters D, N, V, A, O**

**Write the Letters M, P, U, F, U**

**Write the Letters E, S, A, Z, M**

**Write the Letters B, E, P, N, F**

**Circle your best efforts.**


*Circle your best efforts.*

# Chapter Four

Flexible

Letters

## Chapter Four: Flexible Letters

Chapter Four introduces the letters that follow the flexible principle. These letters have the greatest task difficulty because the second stroke starts away from the first stroke. Students not only need to lift the pencil up to start the second stroke, but they must also judge the placement of the second stroke in relation to the first. Letters that follow the flexible principle include G, H, I, J, K, Q, T, X, Y.

The flexible letter grouping is further divided for smaller practice sections. These groupings are based on letter formation similarities. The first grouping contains flexible letters where the second stroke perpendicularly crosses the starting point of the first stroke (T, I, and J); the second grouping contains flexible letters that start with a curve (G and Q); and the third grouping contains the flexible letters that have a second starting point that is parallel with the original starting point (H, X, Y, and K).

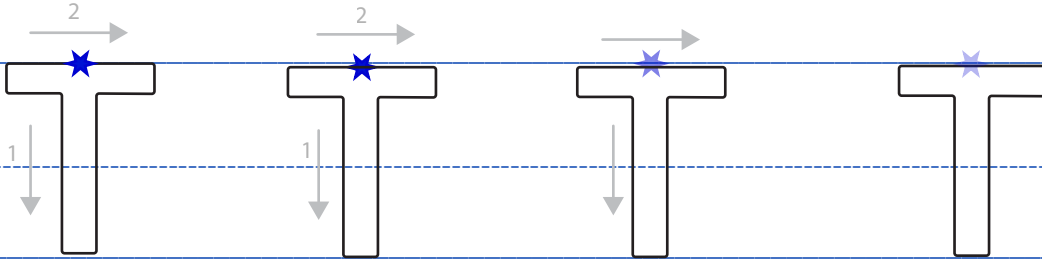
Instructors should read the instructions aloud for each practice trial and note that students are beginning each letter at the correct starting point, using the correct second starting point and drawing the strokes in the correct direction. Students are encouraged to practice writing each of these letters separately (blocked practice) and then practice the letters together (random practice). This chapter has multiple lined blank page to practice between each letter grouping. These pages are provided for the instructor to randomly dictate the letters learned thus far (first O, C, U, S, L, V, W, Z, D, P, B, R, N, M, F, A, T, I, and J; then O, C, U, S, L, V, W, Z, D, P, B, R, N, M, F, A, T, I, J, G, and Q; and finally the entire alphabet) for the student to practice writing letters from memory.



**Draw inside the Lines**

★ Start at the star.

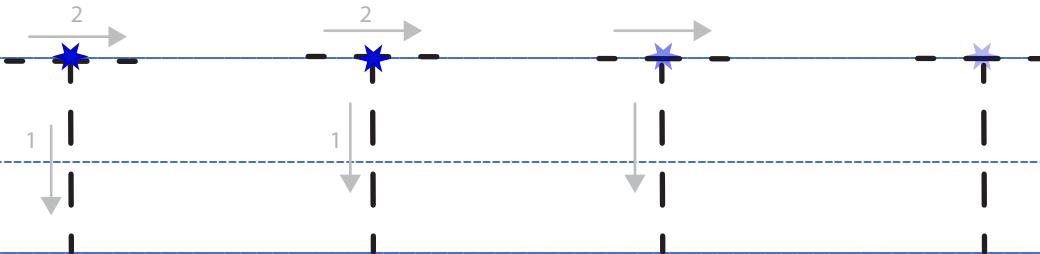
1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top, hop a little to the left red line and draw a straight line across the top.



**Connect the Dashed Lines**

★ Start at the star.

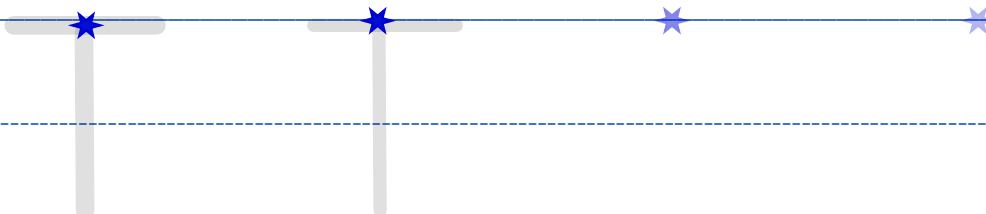
1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top, hop a little to the left red line and draw a straight line across the top.



**Write the Letter T**

★ Start at the star.

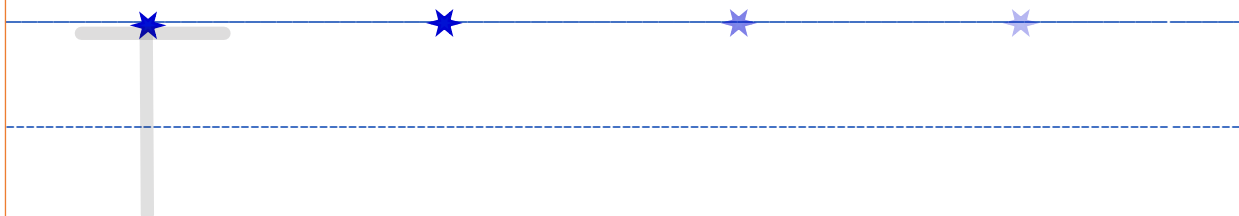
1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top, hop a little to the left red line and draw a straight line across the top.



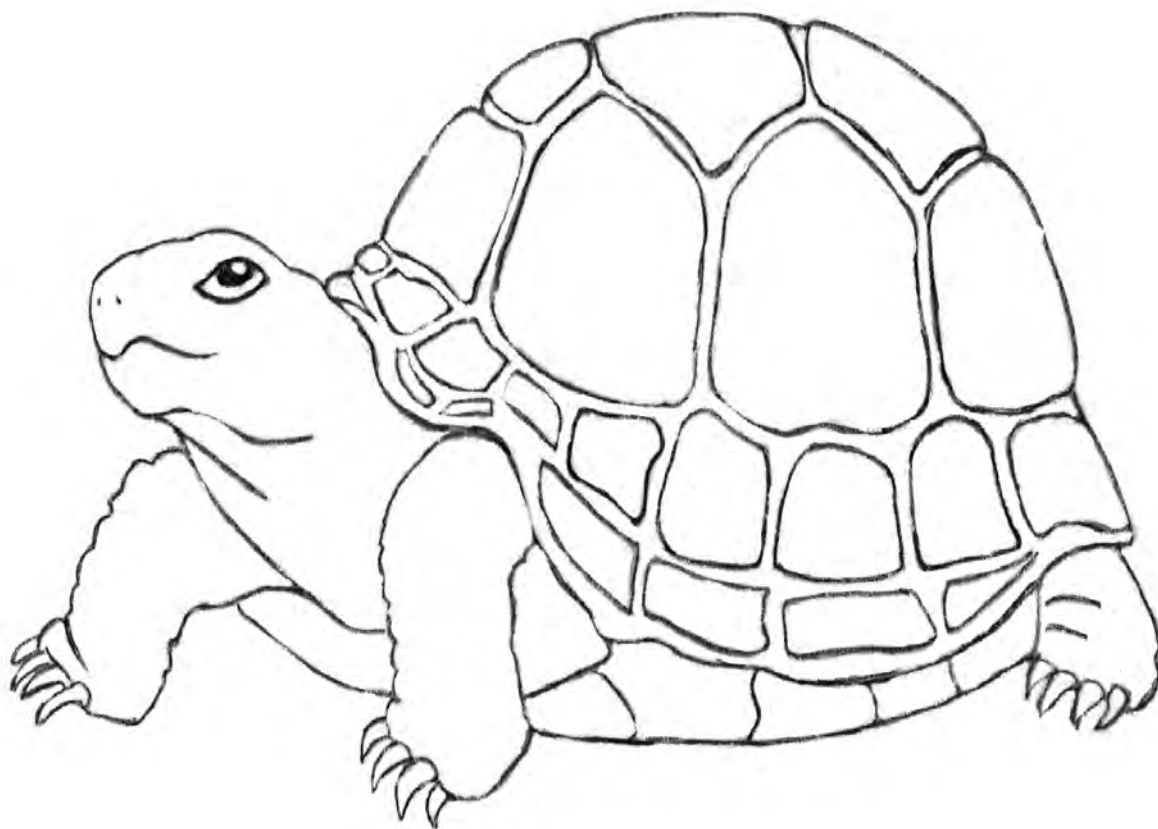
*Write the Letter T*

★ Start at the star.

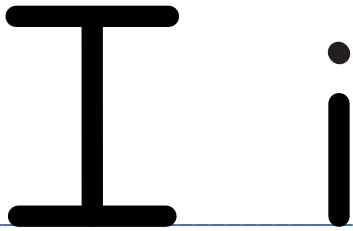
1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top, hop a little to the left red line and draw a straight line across the top.



# Turtle



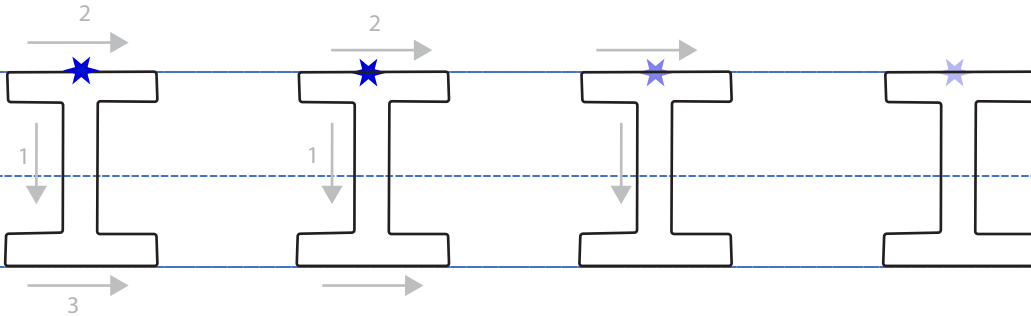
Did you know:  
Turtles have flippers to help them swim.



**Draw Inside the Lines**

★ Start at the star.

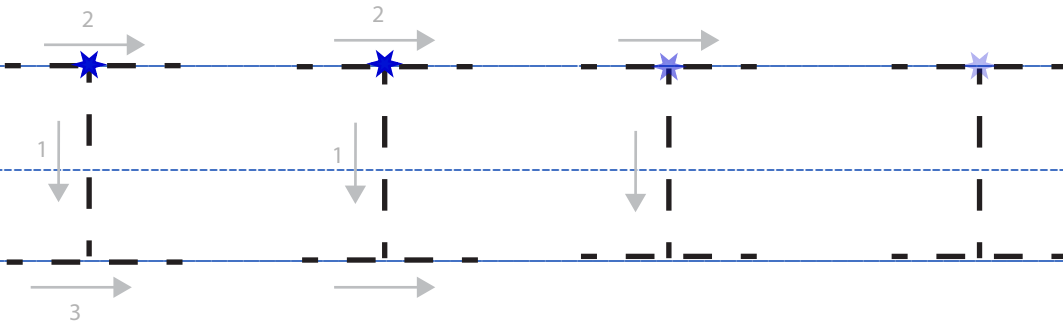
1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top, hop a little to the left red line and draw a straight line across the top.
3. Hop to the bottom, hop a little to the left red line and draw a straight line across the bottom.



**Connect the Dashed Lines**

★ Start at the star.

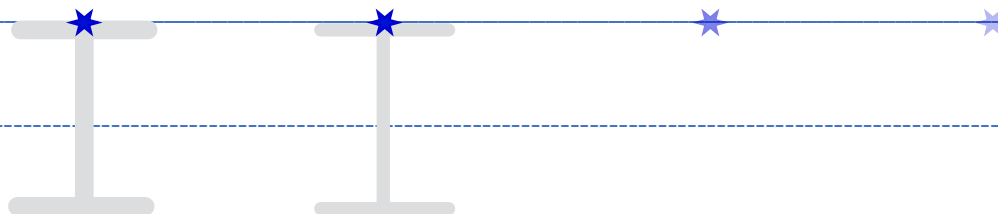
1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top, hop a little to the left red line and draw a straight line across the top.
3. Hop to the bottom, hop a little to the left red line and draw a straight line across the bottom.



**Write the Letter I**

★ Start at the star.

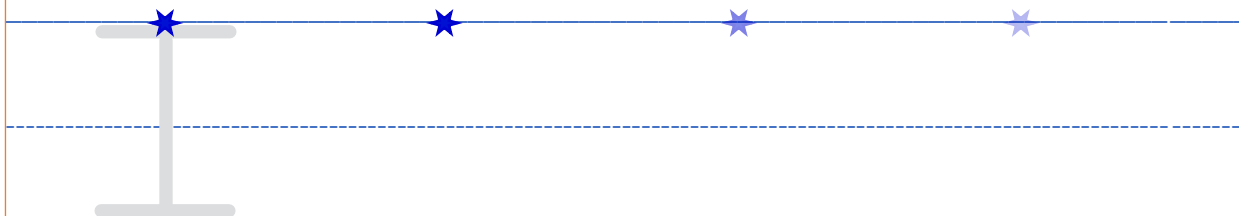
1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top, hop a little to the left red line and draw a straight line across the top.
3. Hop to the bottom, hop a little to the left red line and draw a straight line across the bottom.



*Write the Letter I*

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top, hop a little to the left red start line and draw a straight line across the top.
3. Hop to the bottom, hop a little to the left red start line and draw a straight line across the bottom.



# Ibex



Did you know:

The hooves of the ibex work like suction cups and allow the ibex to climb sheer cliffs.

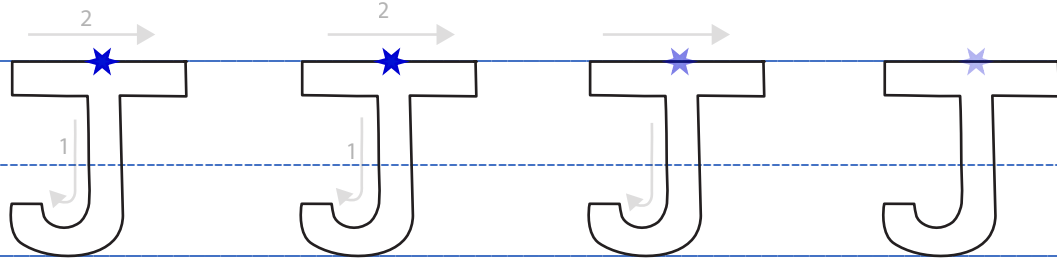


# J j

## Draw Inside the Lines

★ Start at the star.

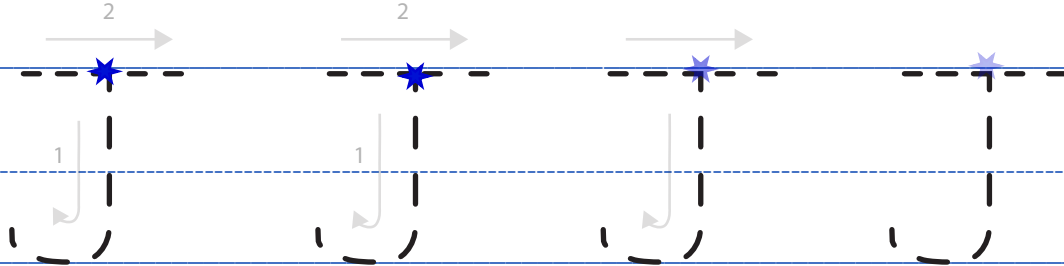
1. Draw a straight line to the bottom that curves to the left red line
2. Hop to the top and draw a straight line across the top.



## Connect the Dashed Lines

★ Start at the star.

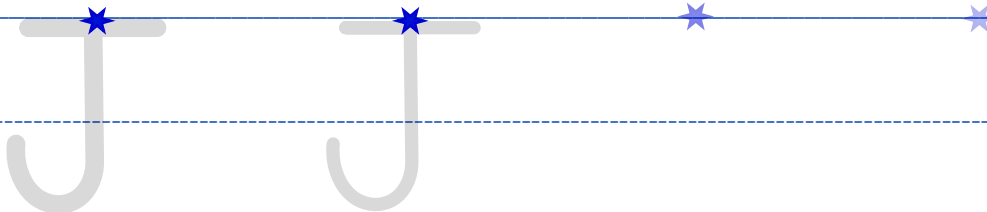
1. Draw a straight line to the bottom that curves to the left red line
2. Hop to the top and draw a straight line across the top.



## Write the letter J

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a straight line to the bottom that curves to the left red line
2. Hop to the top and draw a straight line across the top.



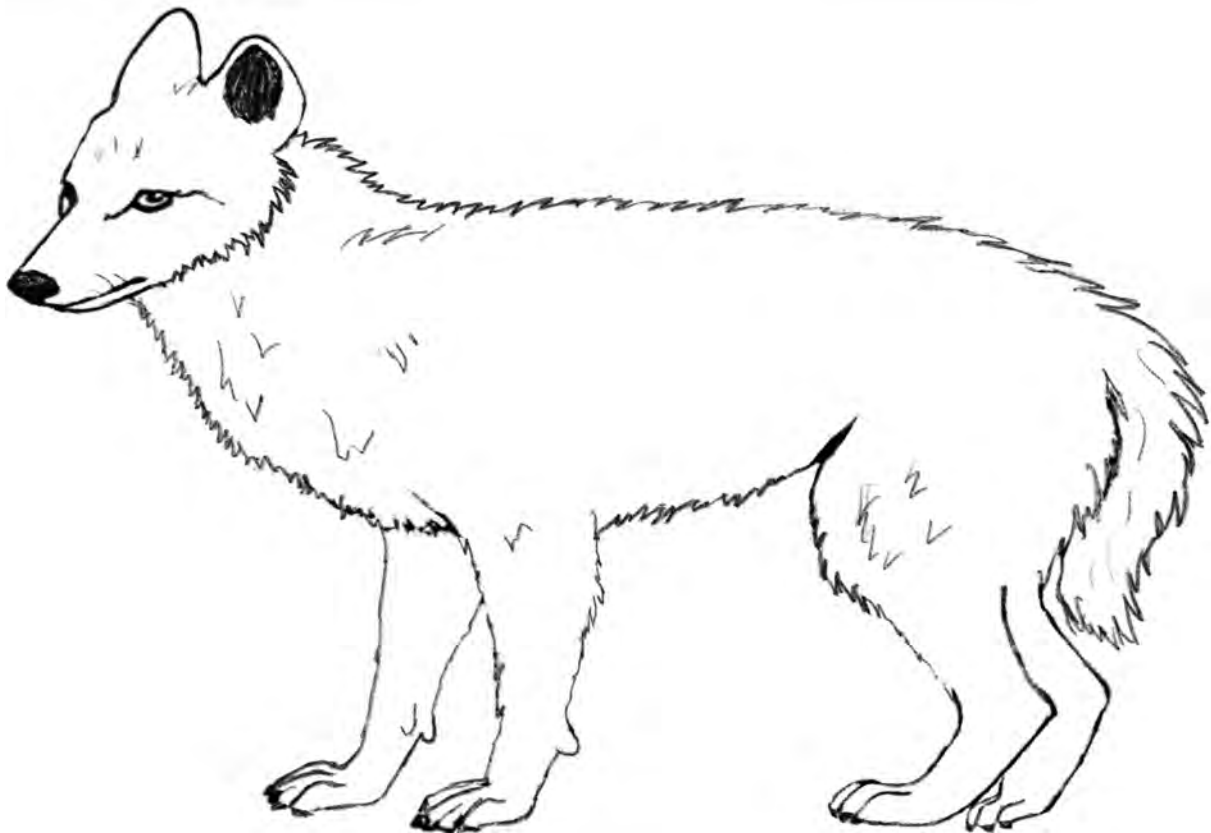
Write the letter J

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a straight line to the bottom that curves to the left red line
2. Hop to the top and draw a straight line across the top.

J

Jackal

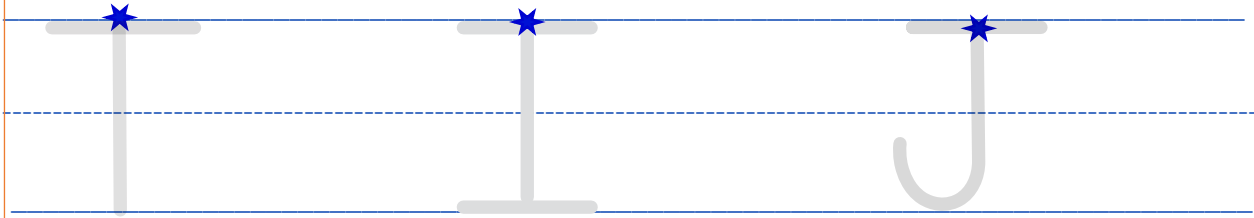


Did you know:

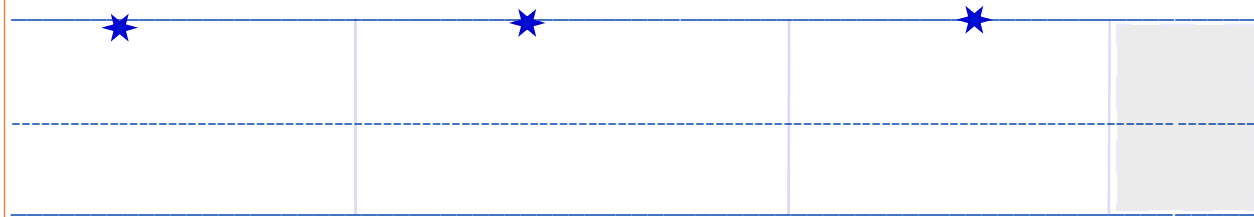
Jackals are canines and related to wolves, coyotes, and foxes.

Write the Letters T, I, J

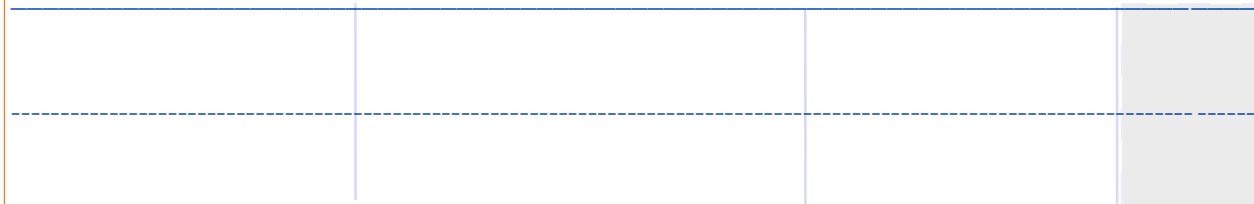
★ Start at the star.



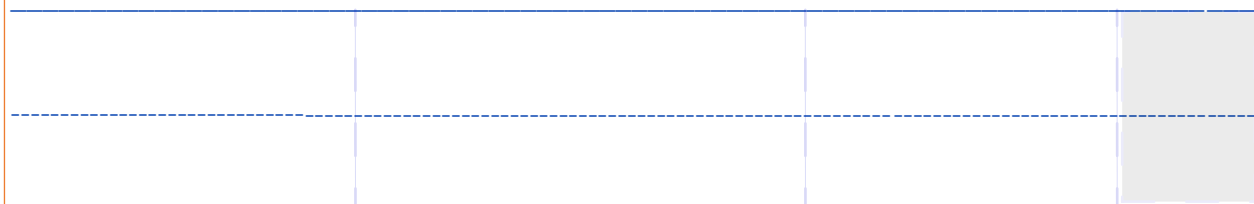
Write the Letters T, I, J



Write the Letters T, I, J



Write the Letters T, I, J



Circle your best efforts.

**Write the Letters T, S, V, A, O**

**Write the Letters M, C, I, F, J**

**Write the Letters E, T, A, I, Z**

**Write the Letters O, R, P, J, N**

**Circle your best efforts.**

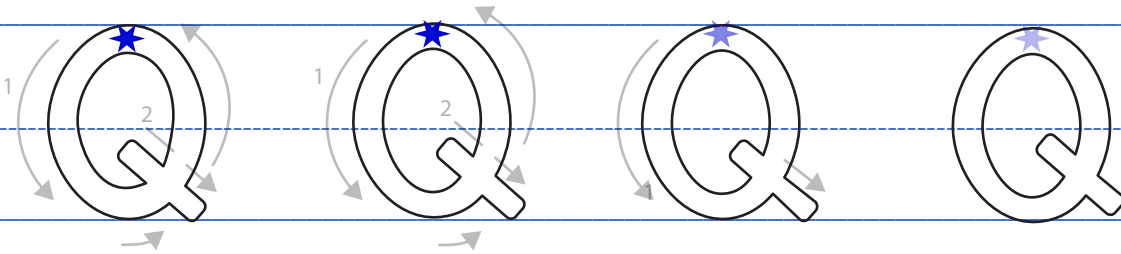




**Draw Inside the Lines**

★ Start at the star.

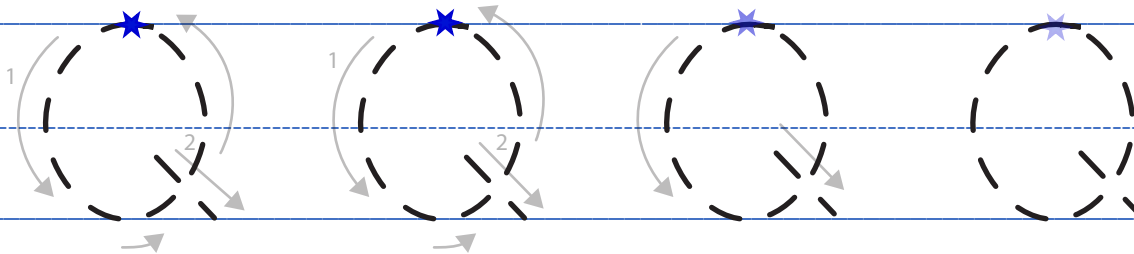
1. Draw a curve line down to the bottom, around and back to the start.
2. Draw a short slanted line down to the bottom.



**Connect the Dashed Lines**

★ Start at the star.

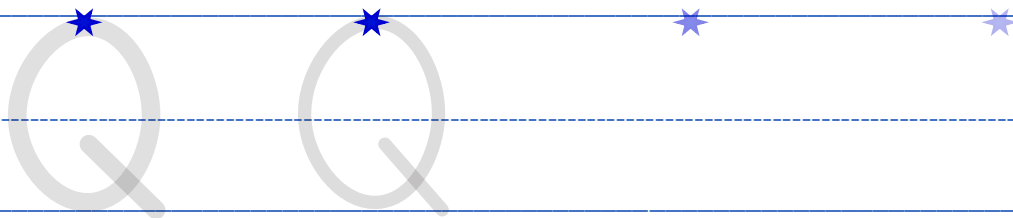
1. Draw a curve line down to the bottom, around and back to the start.
2. Draw a short slanted line down to the bottom.



**Draw the letter Q**

★ Start at the star.

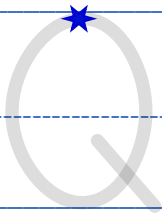
1. Draw a curve line down to the bottom, around and back to the start.
2. Draw a short slanted line down to the bottom.



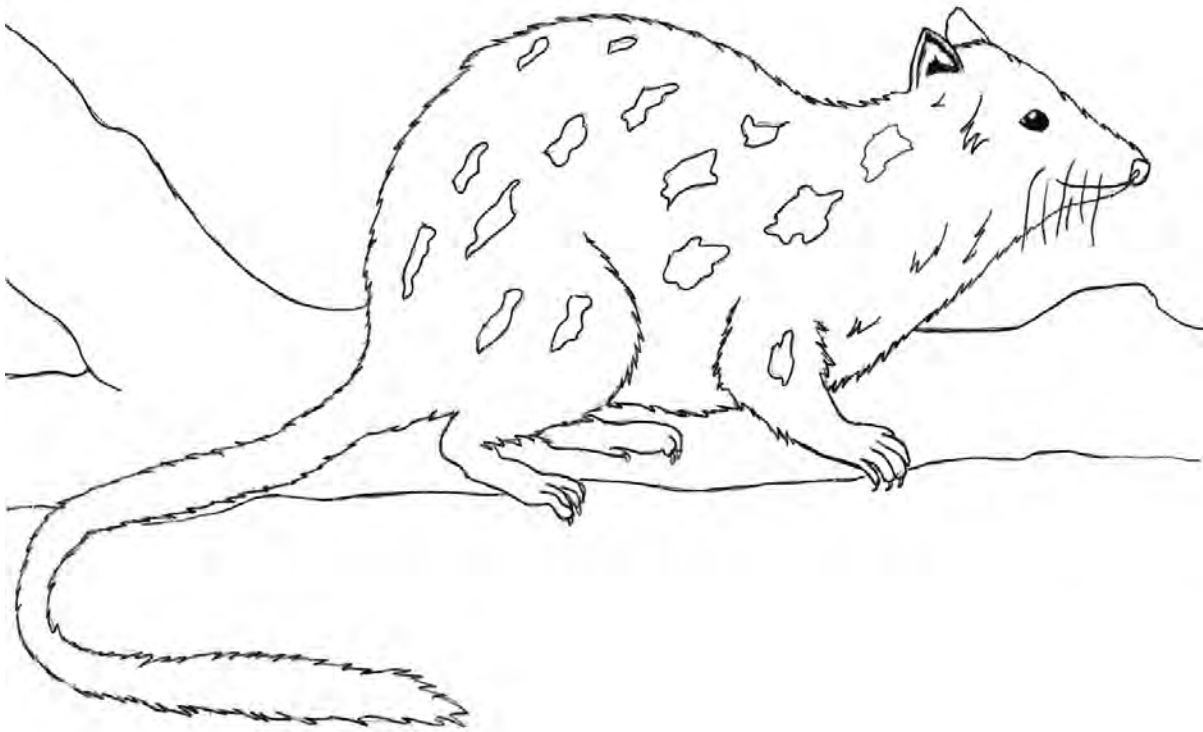
**Draw the letter Q**

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a curve line down to the bottom, around and back to the start.
2. Draw a short slanted line down to the bottom.



# Quoll



Did you know:

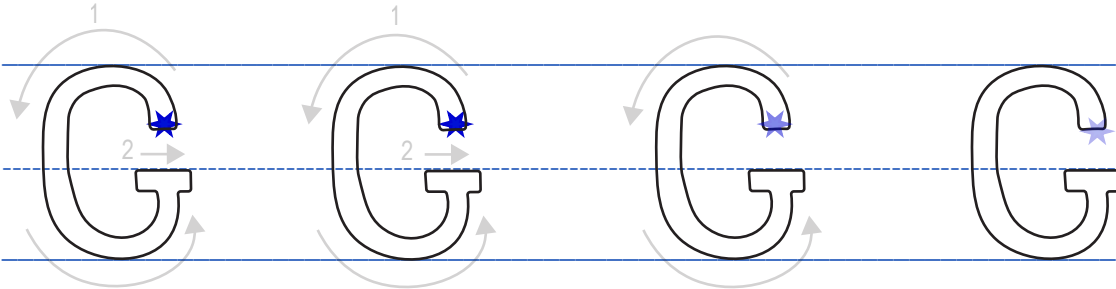
Quolls are marsupials that are only found in Australia and New Guinea.

# G g

## Draw Inside the Lines

★ Start at the star.

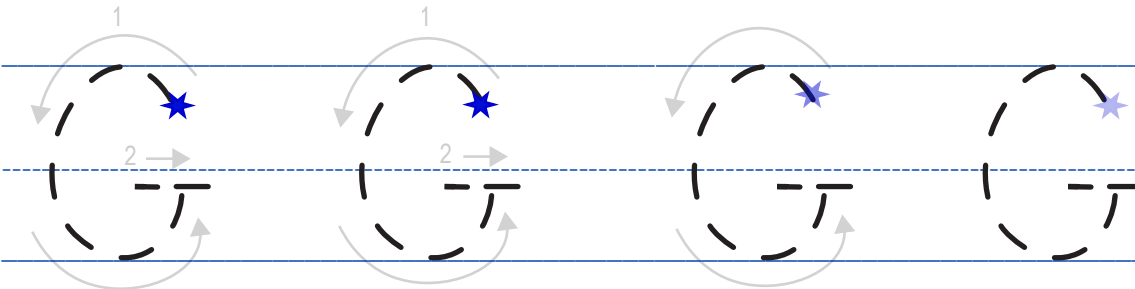
1. Draw a curved line to the bottom and back up toward the dashed line, but stop before the dashed line.
2. Draw a short line to cap the bottom curve.



## Connect the Dashed Lines

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a curved line to the bottom and back up toward the dashed line, but stop before the dashed line.
2. Draw a short line to cap the bottom curve.



## Write the Letter G

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a curved line to the bottom and back up toward the dashed line, but stop before the dashed line.
2. Draw a short line to cap the bottom curve.





*Write the Letter G*

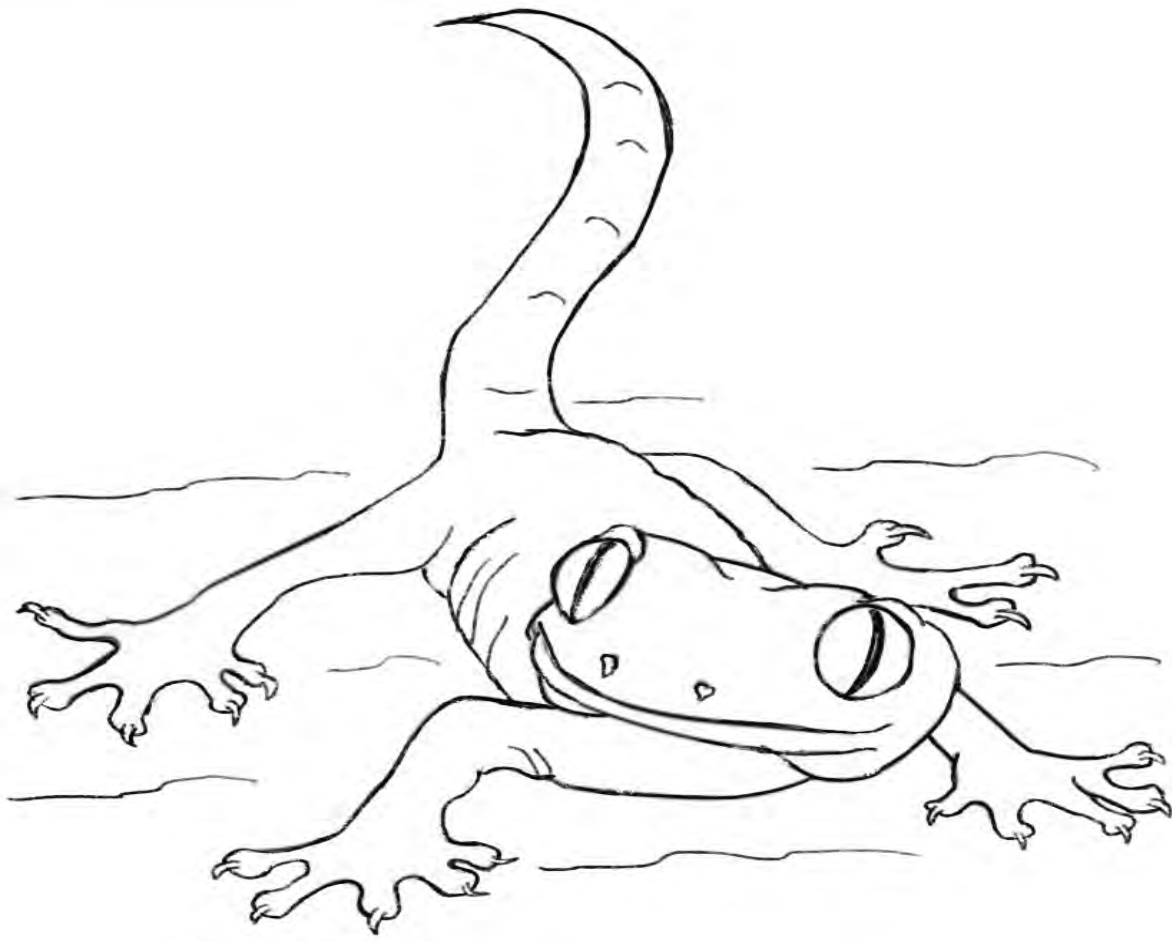
★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a curved line to the bottom and back up toward the dashed line, but stop before the dashed line.
2. Draw a short line to cap the bottom curve.

G



Gecko

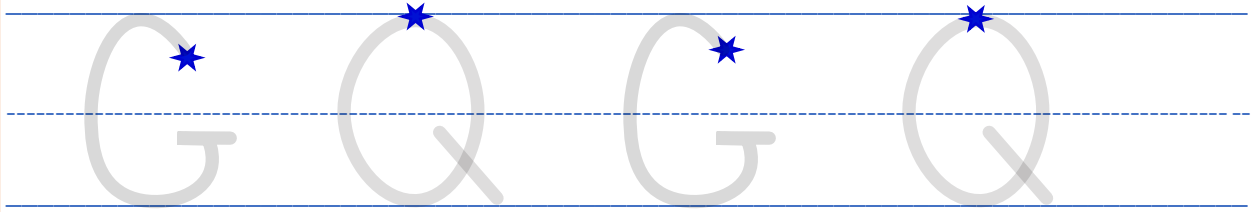


Did you know:

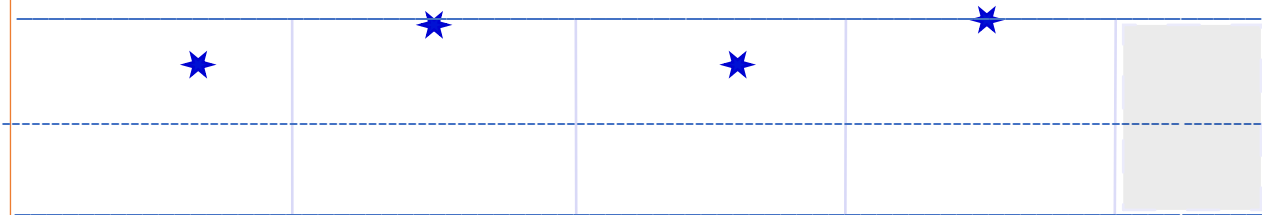
Geckos have vocal cords and can regrow their tails.

*Write the Letters , Q, G, Q, and G*

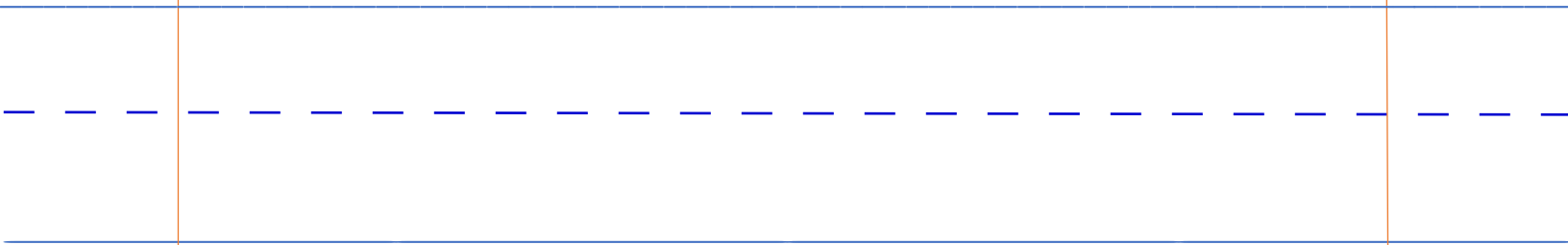
★ Start at the star.



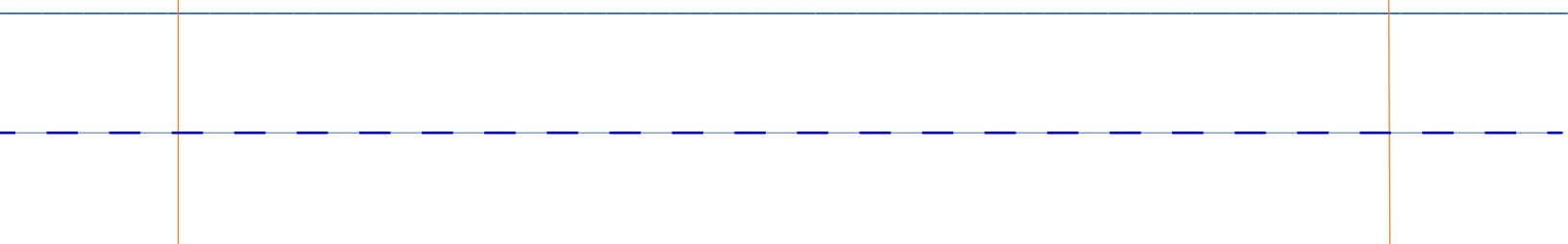
*Write the Letters Q, G, Q and G*



*Write the Letters Z, O, U, and W*



*Write the Letters L, C, V, and S*



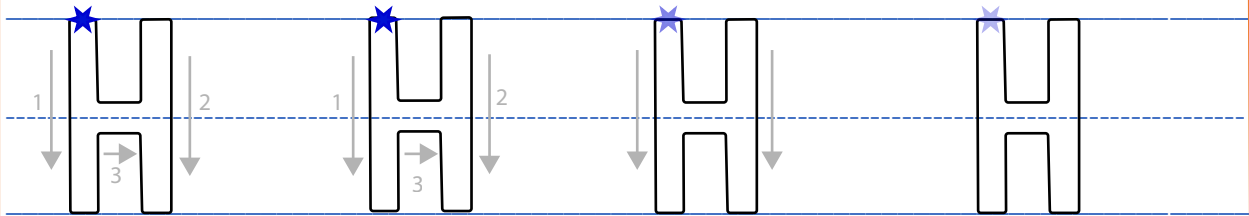
*Circle your best efforts.*

# H h

## Draw Inside the Lines

★ Start at the star.

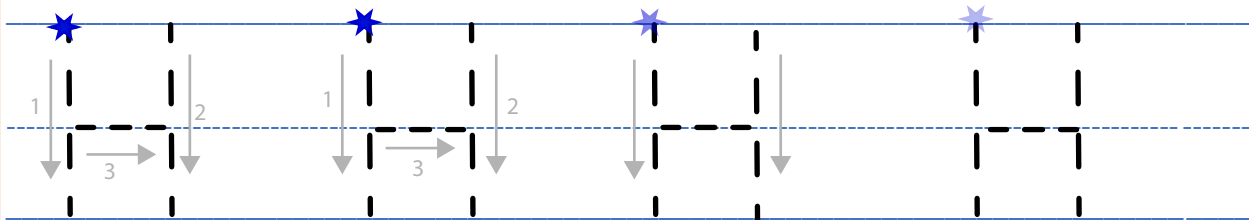
1. Draw a straight line down to the bottom.
2. Hop back to the top, hop over to the right and draw another straight line down to the bottom.
3. Connect the two lines with a straight line across the middle.



## Connect the Dashed Lines

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a straight line down to the bottom.
2. Hop back to the top, hop over to the right and draw another straight line down to the bottom.
3. Connect the two lines with a straight line across the middle.



## Write the Letter H

★ Start at the star.

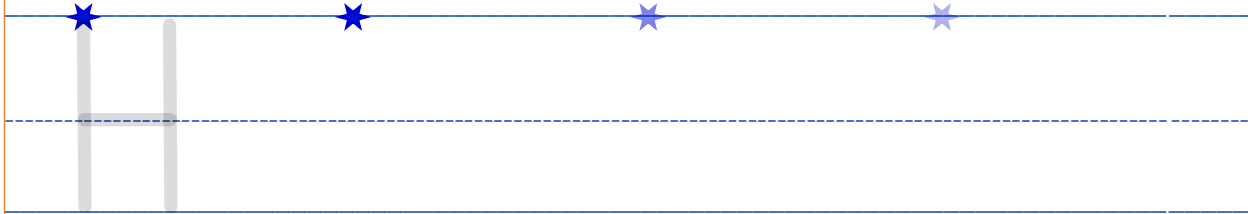
1. Draw a straight line down to the bottom.
2. Hop back to the top, hop to the right and draw another straight line down to the bottom.
3. Connect the two lines with a straight line across the middle.



*Write the letter H*

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a straight line down to the bottom.
2. Hop back to the top, hop to the right and draw another straight line down to the bottom.
3. Connect the two lines with a straight line across the middle.

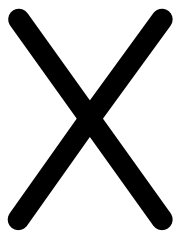


# Hamster



Did you know:

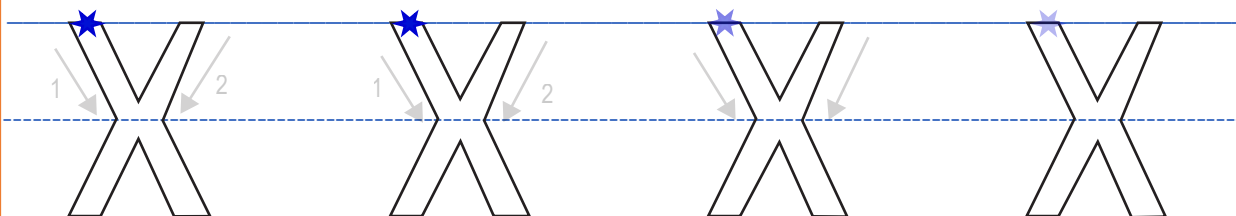
A hamster's teeth keep growing all the time.  
Their teeth are small because they chew on things.



**Draw Inside the Lines**

★ Start at the star.

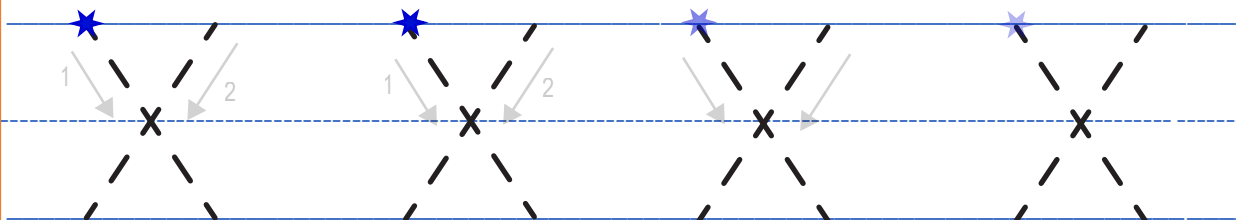
1. Draw a slanted line down to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top, hop a little to the right and draw a slanted line in the other direction down to the bottom.



**Connect the Dashed Lines**

★ Start at the star.

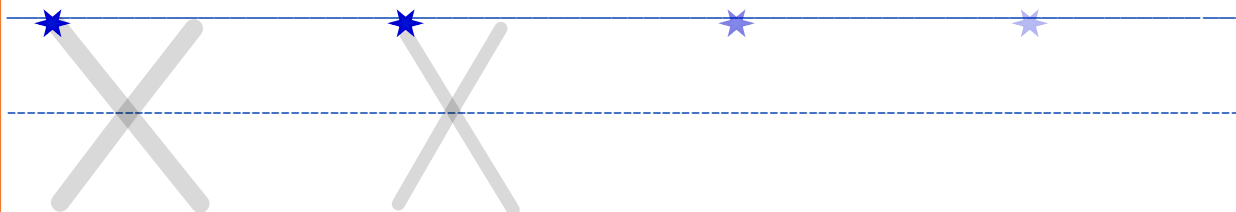
1. Draw a slanted line down to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top, hop a little to the right and draw a slanted line in the other direction down to the bottom.



**Write the Letter X**

★ Start at the star.

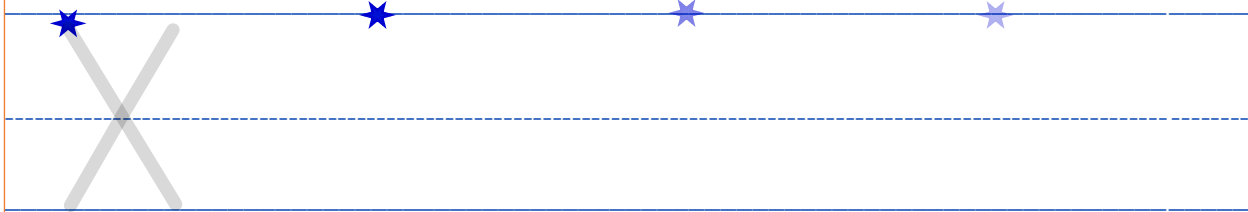
1. Draw a slanted line down to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top, hop a little to the right and draw a slanted line in the other direction down to the bottom.



*Write the letter X*

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a slanted line down to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top, hop a little to the right and draw a slanted line in the other direction down to the bottom.

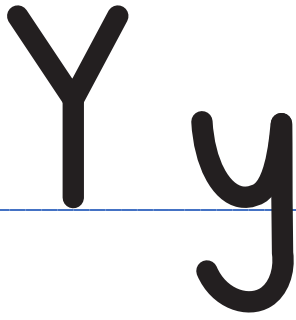


**X**erus



Did you know:

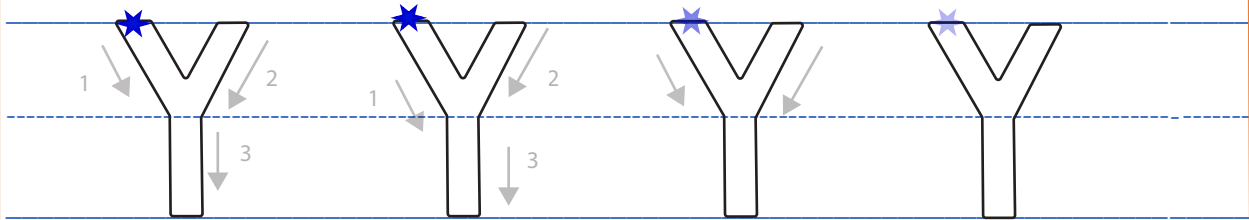
Xerus are ground squirrels native to Africa.  
They use their fluffy tail as shade from the sun.



**Draw Inside the Lines**

★ Start at the star.

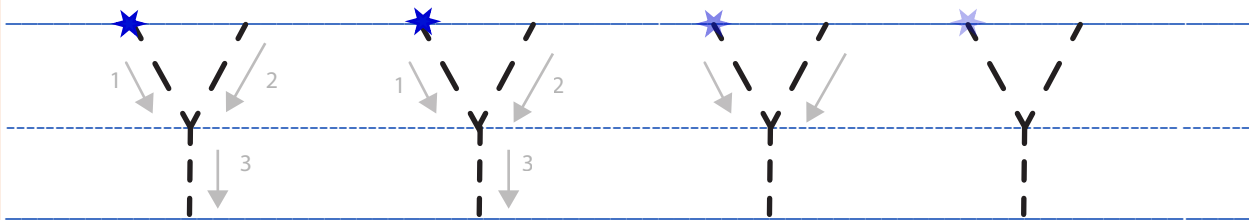
1. Draw a short slanted line to the dashed line.
2. Hop to the top, hop a little to the right and draw a slanted line in the other direction to the dashed line.
3. Where to two slanted lines meet on the dashed line, draw a straight line to the bottom.



**Connect the dashed lines**

★ Start at the star.

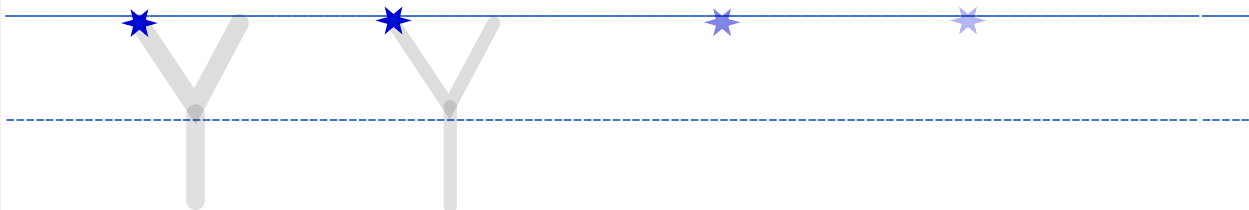
1. Draw a short slanted line to the dashed line.
2. Hop to the top, hop a little to the right and draw a slanted line in the other direction to the dashed line.
3. Where to two slanted lines meet on the dashed line, draw a straight line to the bottom.



**Write the Letter Y**

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a short slanted line to the dashed line.
2. Hop to the top, hop a little to the right and draw a slanted line in the other direction to the dashed line.
3. Where to two slanted lines meet on the dashed line, draw a straight line to the bottom.



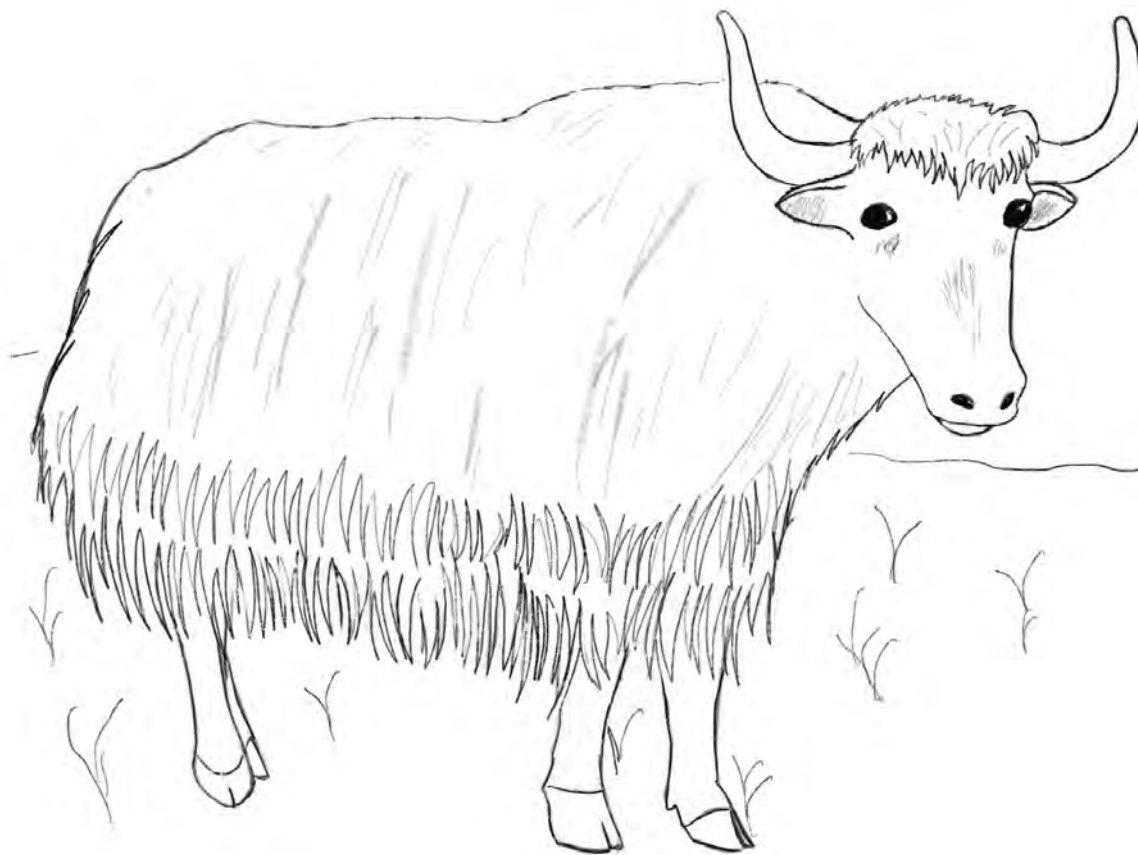
Write the letter Y

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a short slanted line to the dashed line.
2. Hop to the top, hop a little to the right and draw a slanted line in the other direction to the dashed line.
3. Where to two slanted lines meet on the dashed line, draw a straight line to the bottom.



# Yak



Did you know:

Yaks are native to Tibet and live in alpine meadows and open hills.

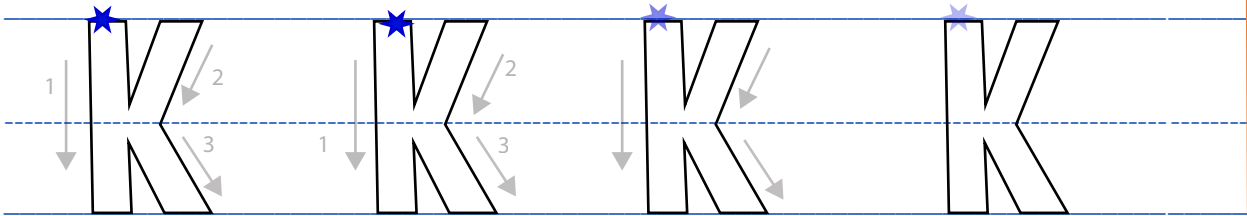


# K k

## Draw Inside the Lines

★ Start at the star.

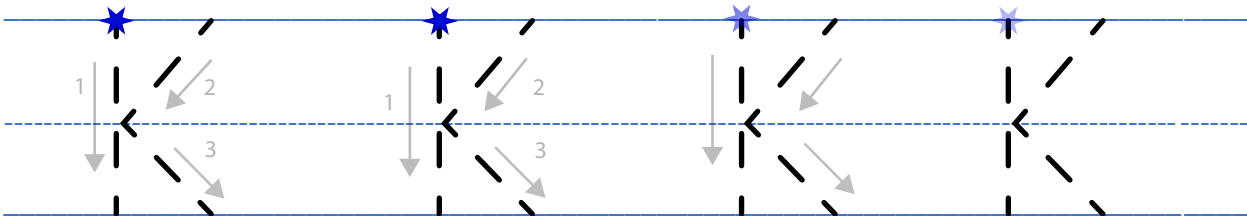
1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top, hop a little to the right and draw a short slanted line back to the middle of the straight line.
3. Draw a short slanted line to the bottom.



## Connect the Dashed Lines

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top, hop a little to the right and draw a short slanted line back to the middle of the straight line.
3. Draw a short slanted line to the bottom.



## Write the Letter K

★ Start at the star.

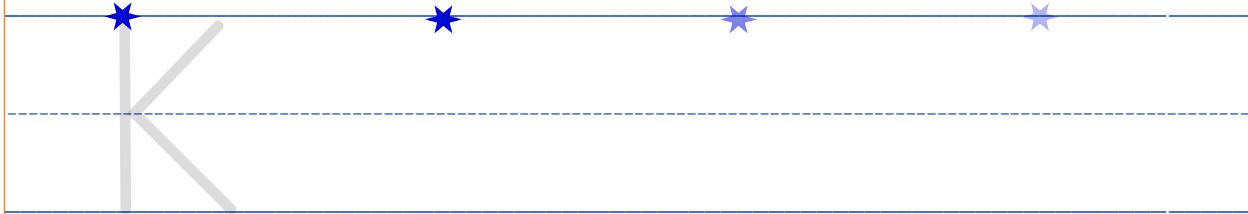
1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top, hop a little to the right and draw a short slanted line back to the middle of the straight line.
3. Draw a short slanted line to the bottom.



**Write the Letter K**

★ Start at the star.

1. Draw a straight line to the bottom.
2. Hop to the top, hop a little to the right and draw a short slanted line back to the middle of the straight line.
3. Draw a short slanted line to the bottom.



# Koala

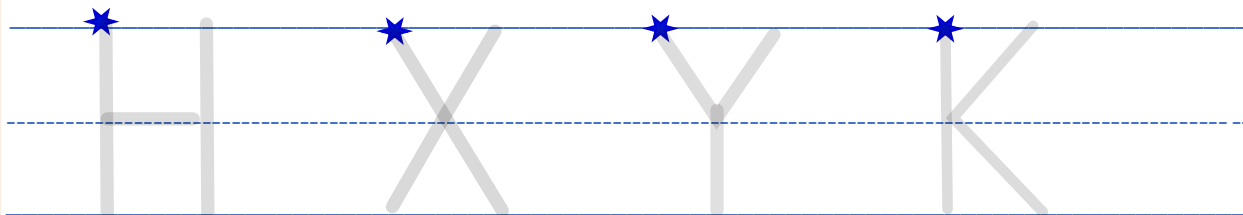


Did you know:

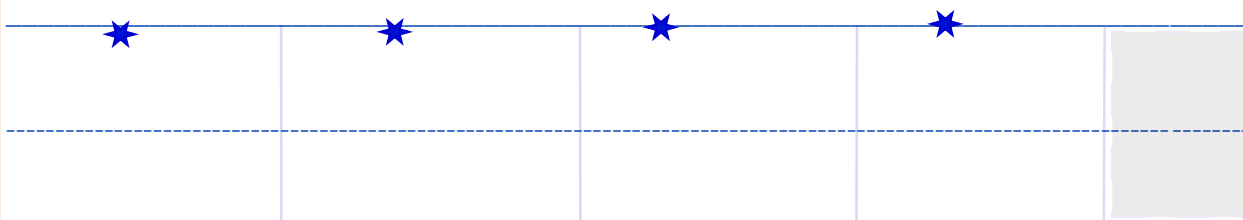
Koalas are native to south-eastern Australia and young koalas are called joeys.

*Write the Letters H, X, Y, and K*

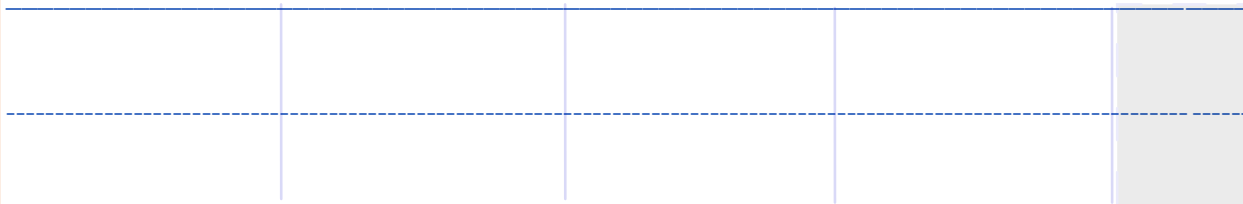
★ Start at the star.



*Write the Letters H, X, Y, and K*



*Write the Letters H, X, Y, and K*



*Write the Letters H, X, Y, and K*



*Circle your best efforts.*

*Write the Letters H, N, K G*

*Write the Letters X, M, Y, Q*

*Write the Letters R, E, A, J*

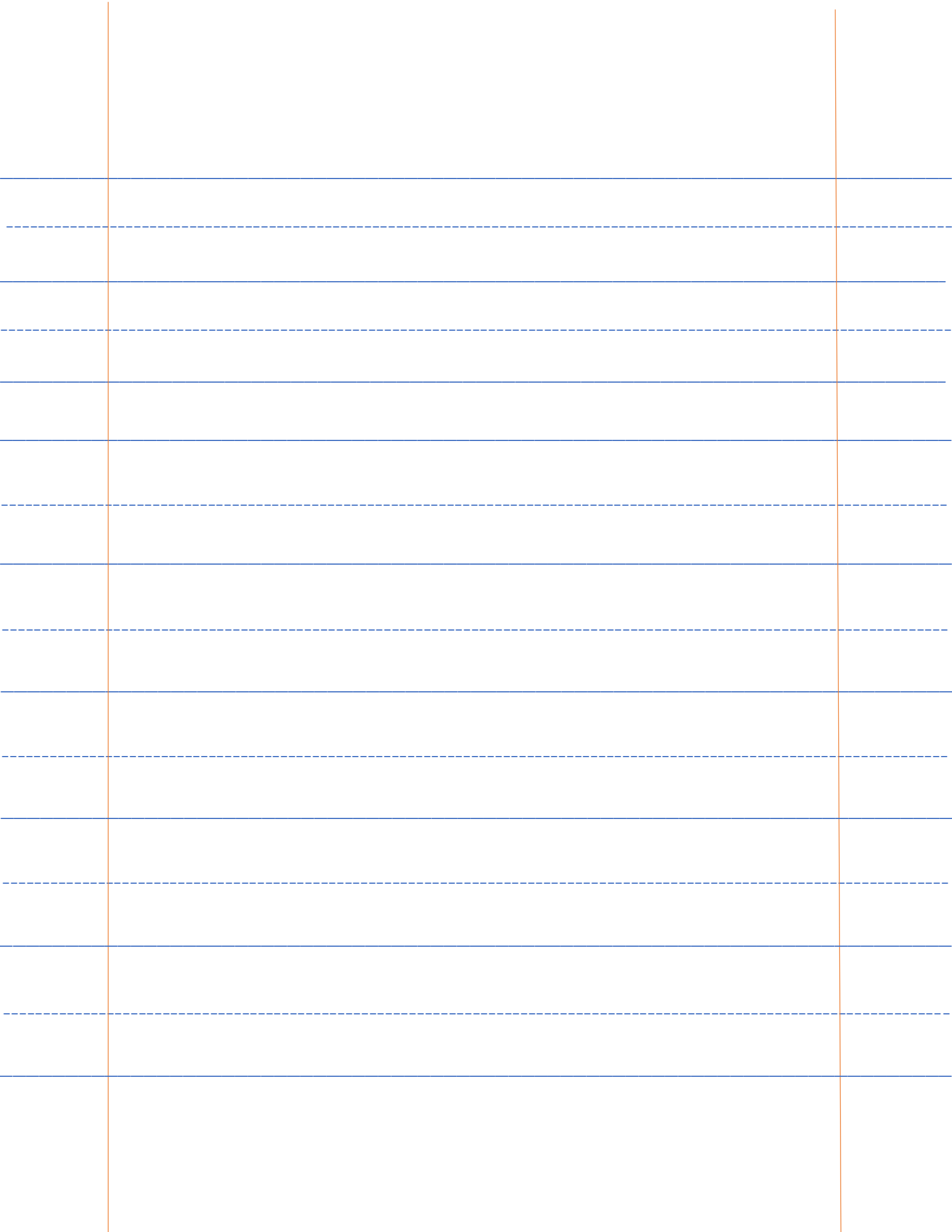
*Write the Letters G, Q, E, K*

*Circle your best efforts.*

*Circle your best efforts.*

Practice writing the alphabet.

The image shows a handwriting practice sheet. At the top, there is a text instruction: "Practice writing the alphabet." Below this instruction, the page is filled with ten rows of horizontal lines. Each row is designed for handwriting practice and consists of three lines: a solid blue top line, a dashed blue middle line, and a solid blue bottom line. The entire writing area is framed by two vertical orange lines, one on the left and one on the right, which define the width of the practice lines.



## References

- Connelly, V., Gee, D., & Walsh, E. (2007). A comparison of keyboarded and handwritten compositions and the relationship with transcription speed. *British Journal of Educational Psychology*, 77(2), 479-492.  
<https://doi.org/10.1348/000709906X116768>
- Guadagnoli, M. A., & Lee, T. D. (2004). Challenge point: a framework for conceptualizing the effects of various practice conditions in motor learning. *Journal of Motor Behavior*, 36(2), 212-224.  
<https://doi-org.proxy.library.nyu.edu/10.3200/JMBR.36.2.212-224>
- Meulenbroek, R. G. J., Thomassen, A. J. W. M., Schillings, J. J., & Rosenbaum, D.A. (1996). Synergies and sequencing in copying L-shaped patterns. In M.L. Simner, C.G., Leedham, A. J. M. Thomassen (Eds). *Handwriting and drawing and applied issues* (pp 41-55). Amsterdam, Netherlands: IOS Press