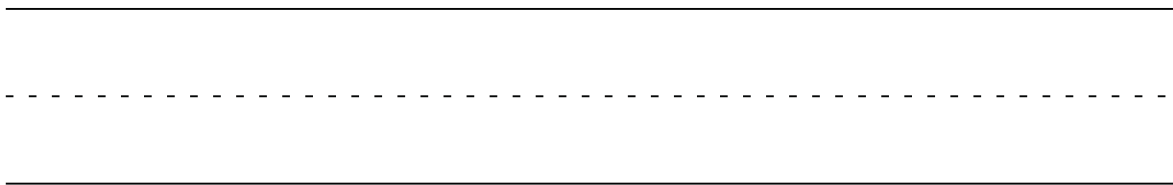
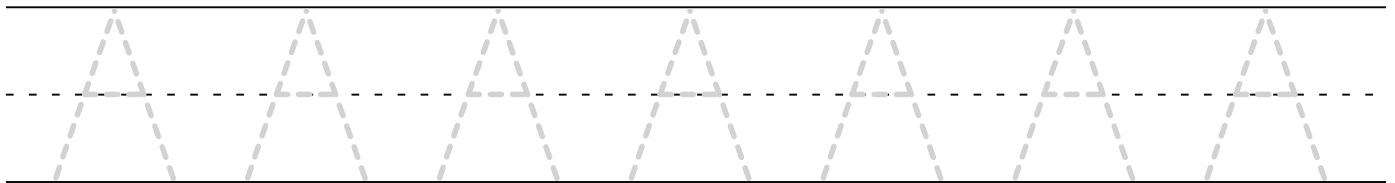
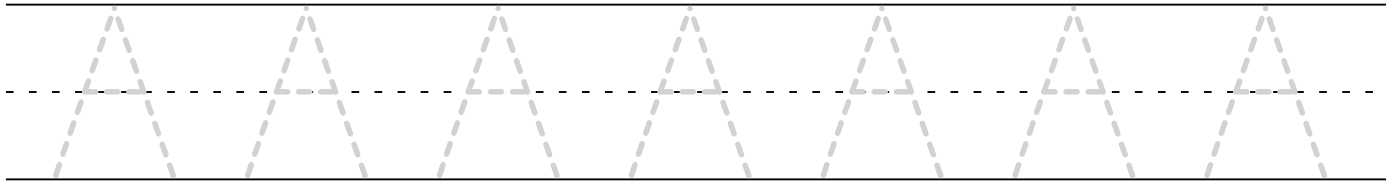
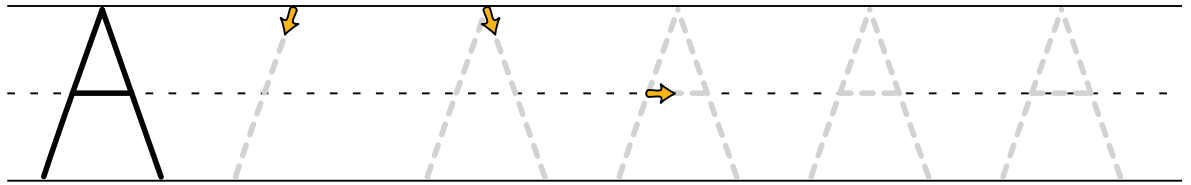


# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter A:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



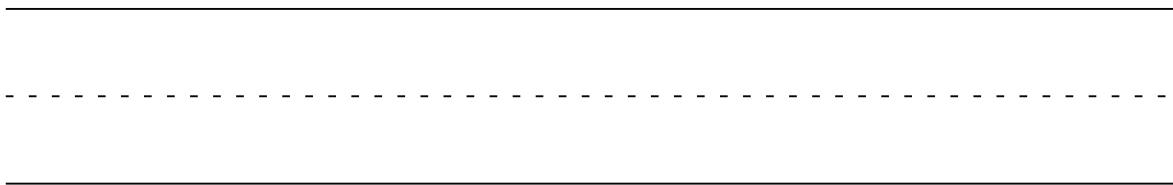
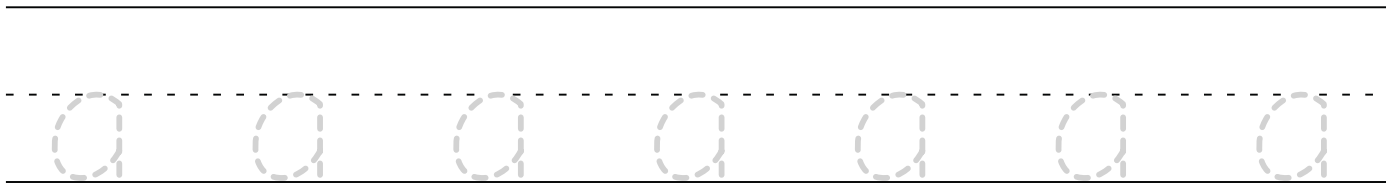
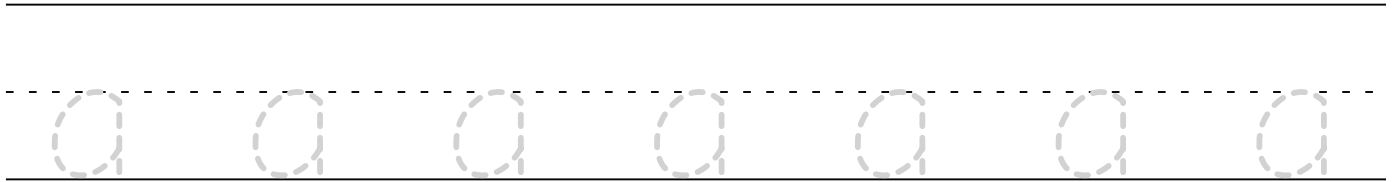
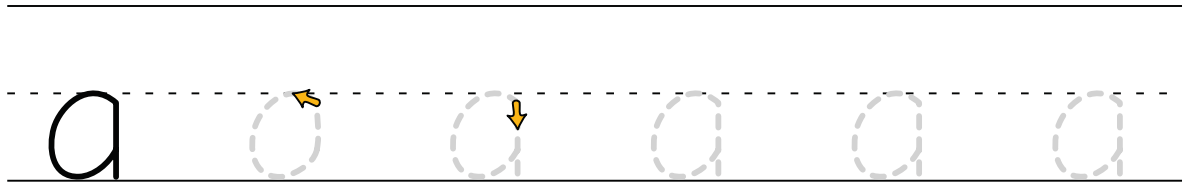
**Tip for parents:** It's time to draw "A" tent! After drawing the first line, have your child lift his pencil, go back to the top and make the second wall of the tent.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter a:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



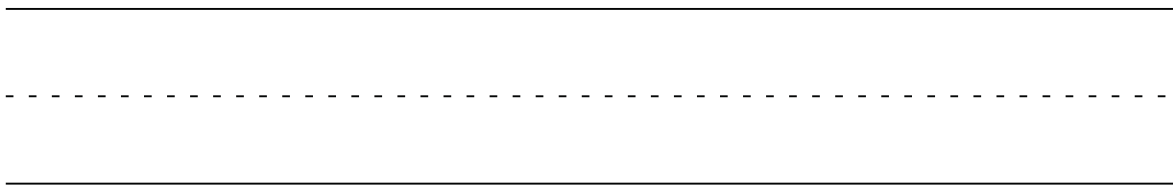
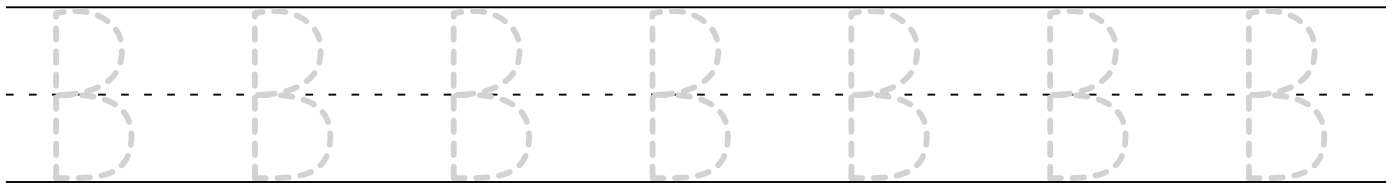
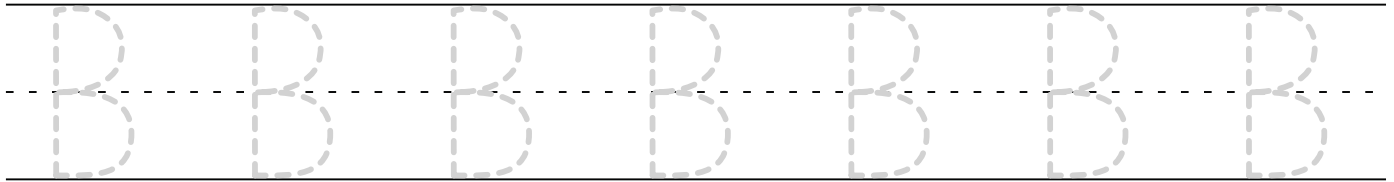
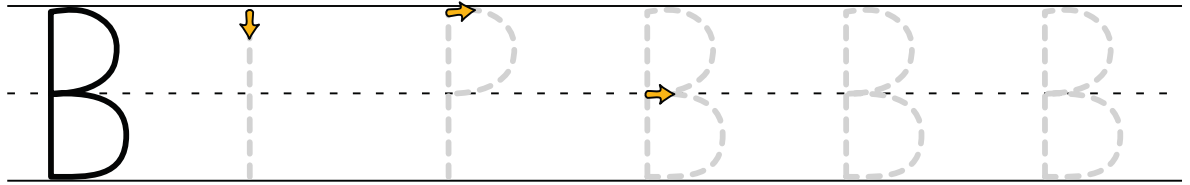
**Tip for parents:** Have your child start with the pencil just below the dotted middle line and not lift the pencil until the letter is complete. This will create a seamless lowercase a.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter B:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



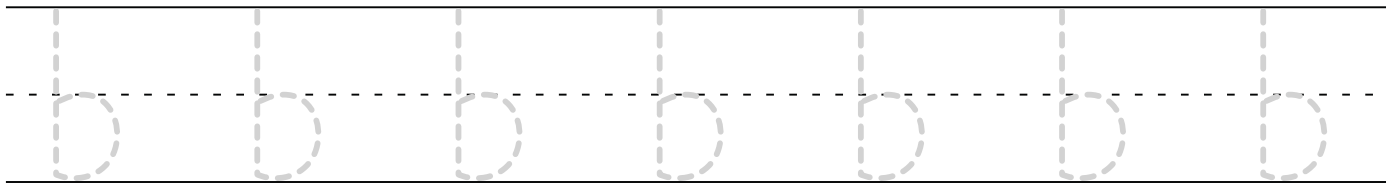
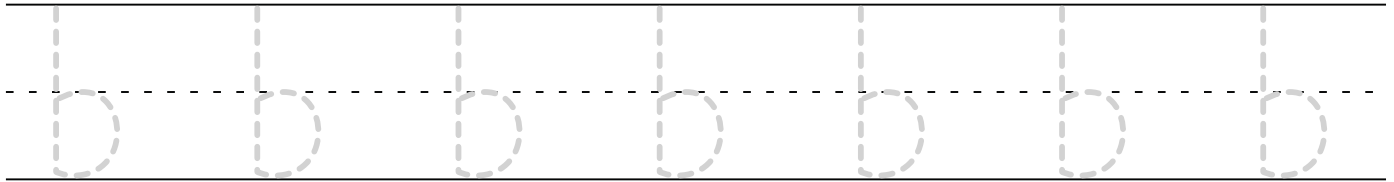
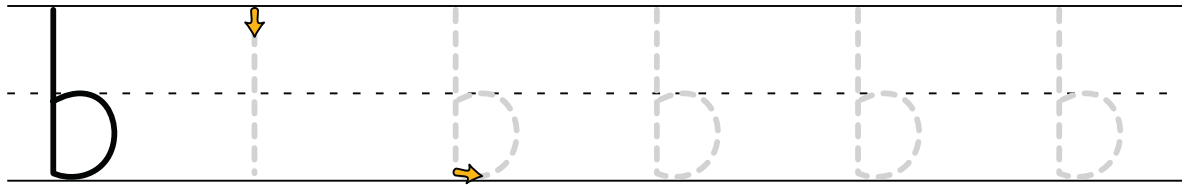
**Tip for parents:** The key to writing a neat B is to lift the pencil once. After drawing the straight line down, direct your child to lift the pencil, go back to the top and draw two half circles without picking the pencil up in the middle.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter b:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.

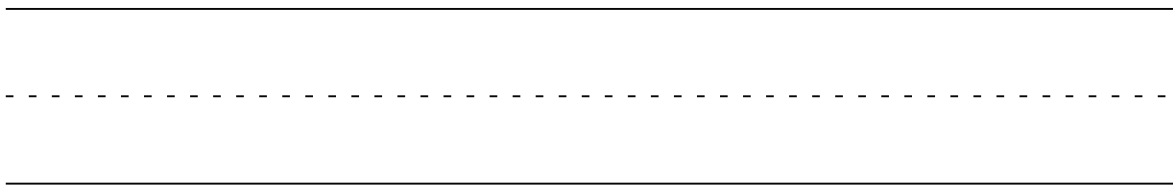
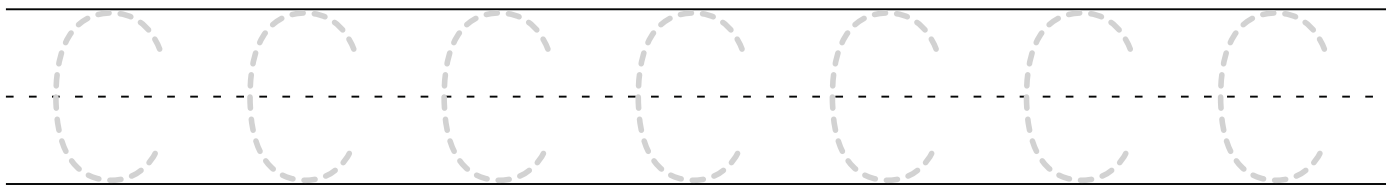
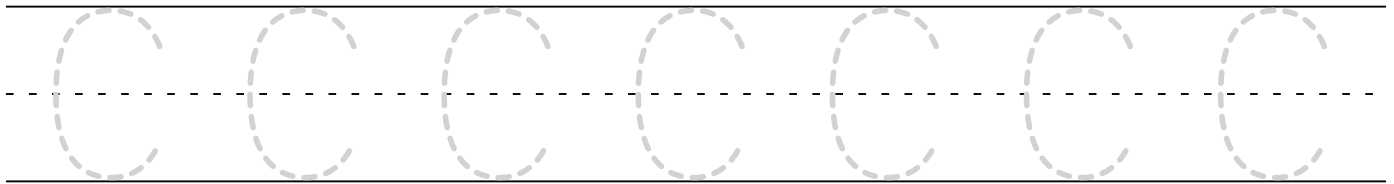
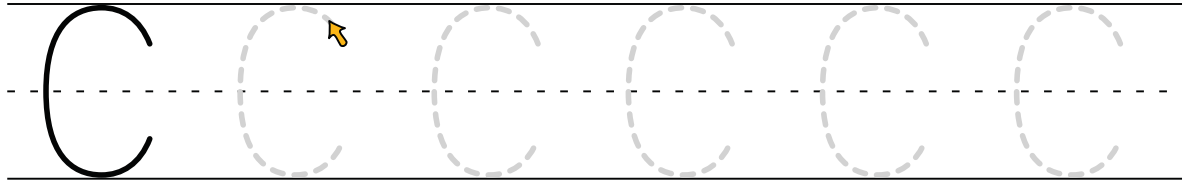


Blank three-line handwriting grid for independent practice.



# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter C:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



**Tip for parents:** To get a nice curve, direct your child to begin with the pencil just under the solid line at the top and end the curve just above the solid line at the bottom. This will create a nice, full curve.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter c:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



C



SCHOOL SPARKS



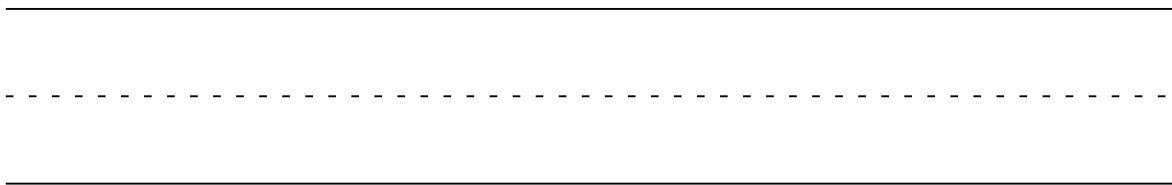
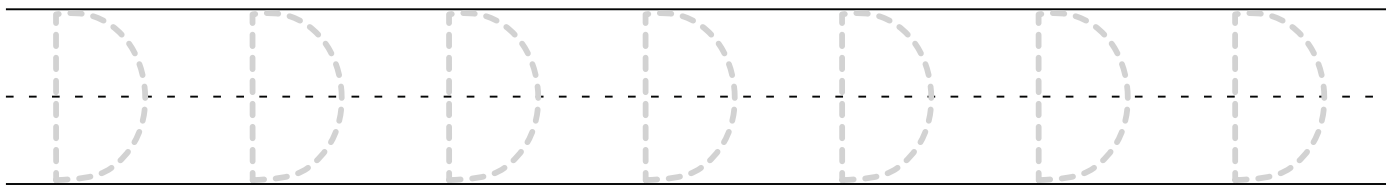
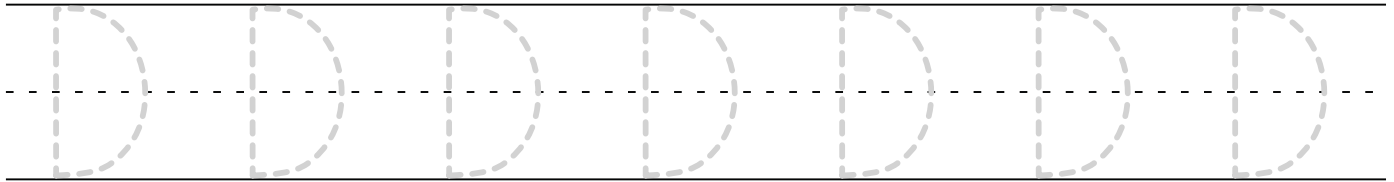
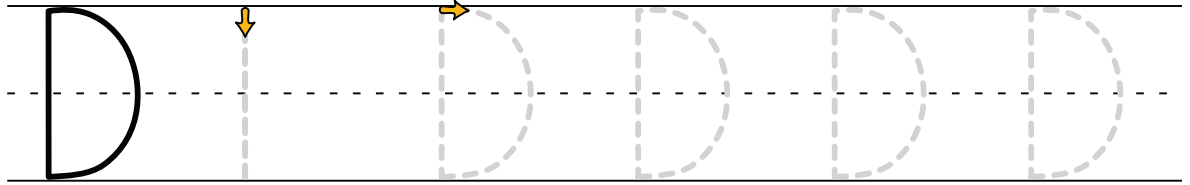
**Tip for parents:** Explain to your child that the letter c is one smooth curve, starting just below the dashed line and ending just above the solid line at the bottom. It is identical to the uppercase C, only smaller.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter D:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



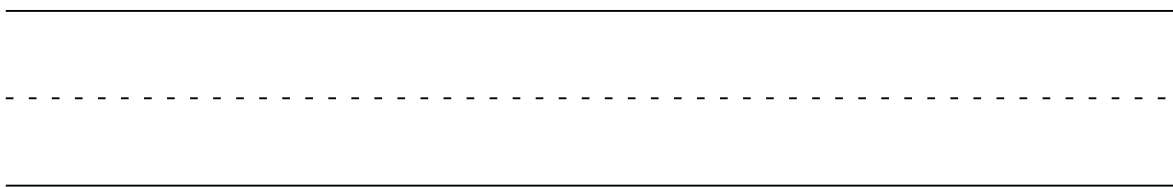
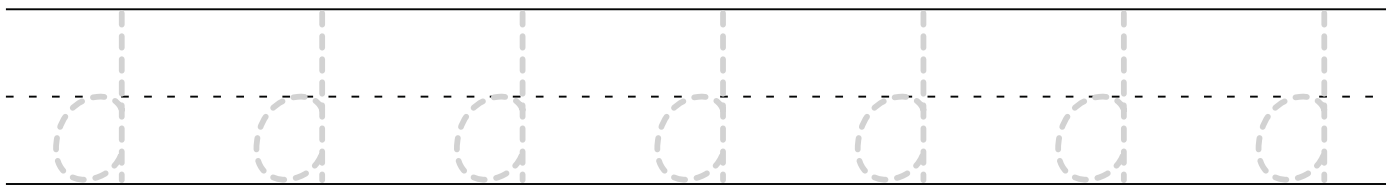
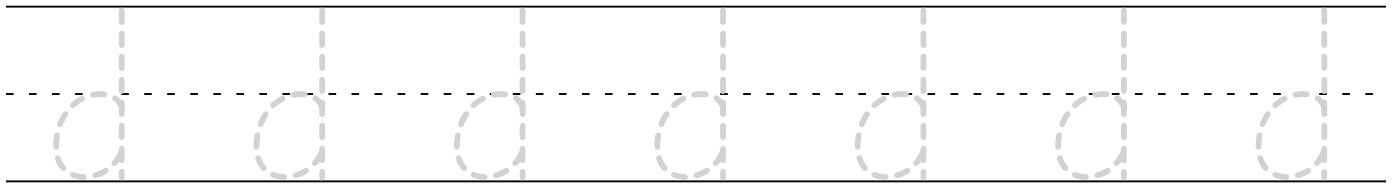
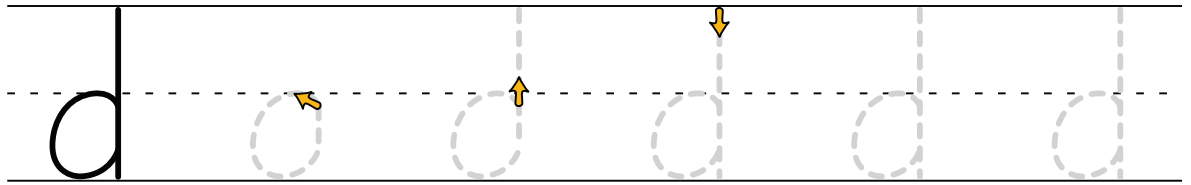
**Tip for parents:** This letter requires one straight line and one big curve. After drawing the vertical line, direct your child to pick up the pencil and draw one big curve from the top of the line to the bottom of the line.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter d:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



**Tip for parents:** The key to this letter is writing it without lifting the pencil. After drawing the loop, direct your child to continue drawing to the top line before changing direction and drawing a straight line back to the bottom.

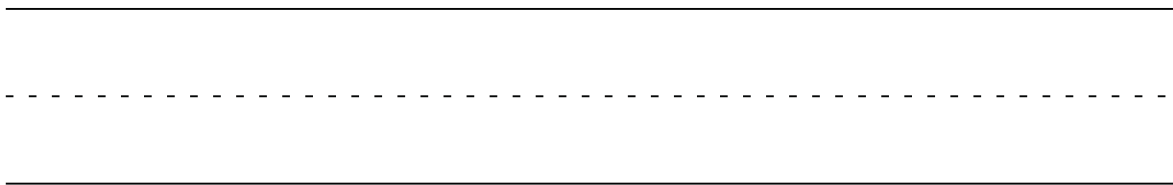
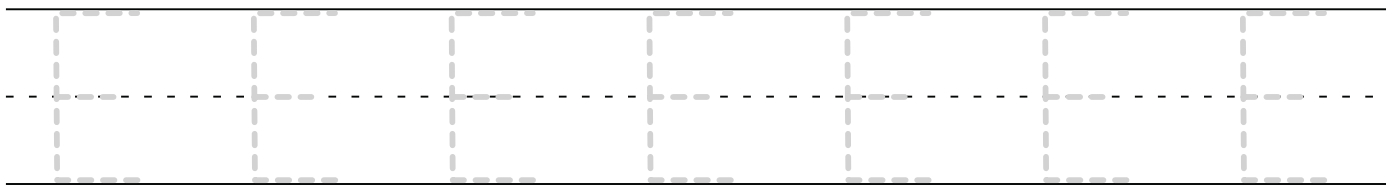
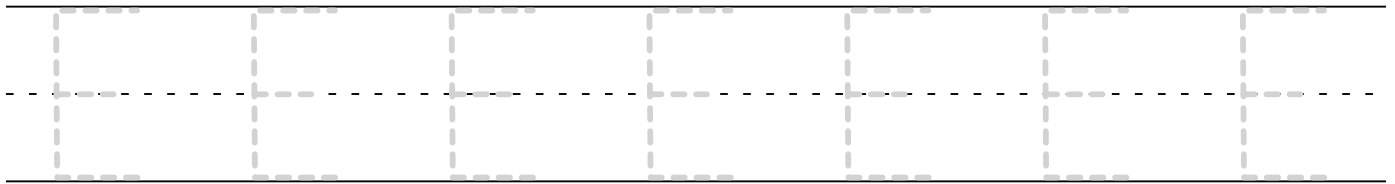
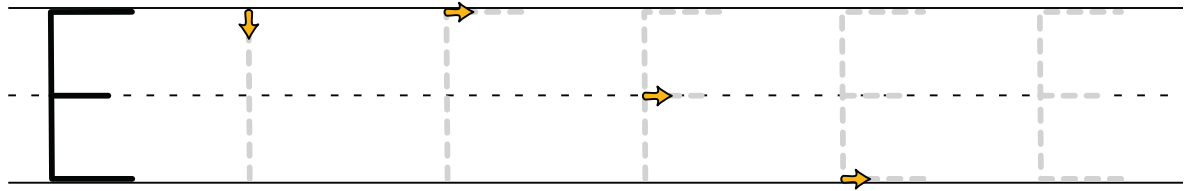
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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter E:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



**Tip for parents:** Your child will need to lift the pencil three times to write the perfect E. To help his accuracy, remind him to always put the pencil tip down directly on the line he already drew before adding a new line to the letter.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter e:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



e



SCHOOL SPARKS



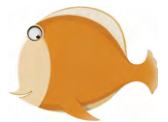
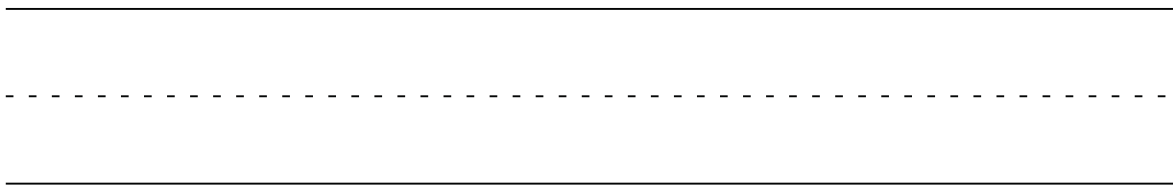
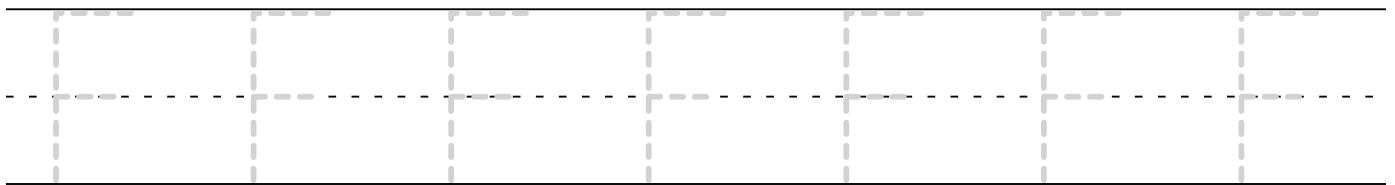
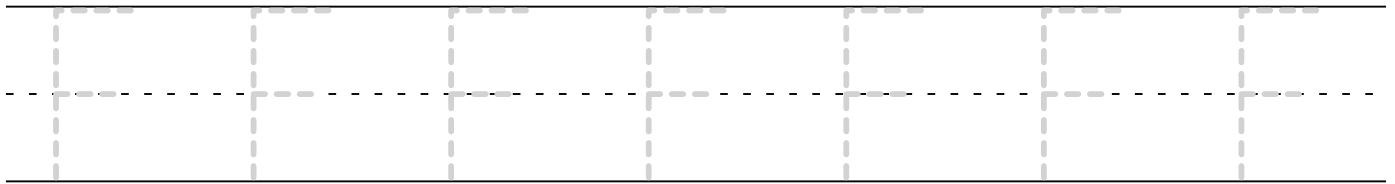
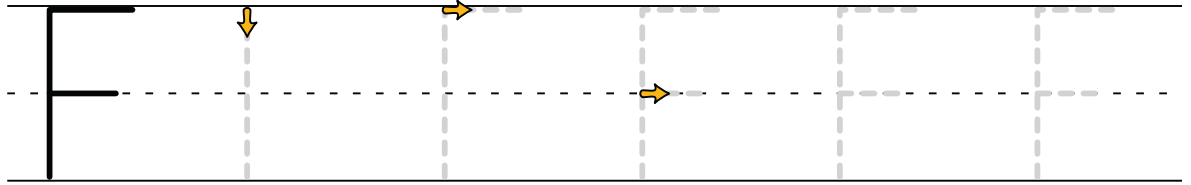
**Tip for parents:** The letter e is one big, excellent loop! Remind your child to draw the letter in one smooth movement, without lifting the pencil midway through writing the letter. This will create a smooth, seamless curve.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter F:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



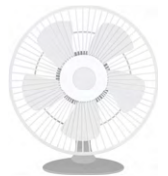
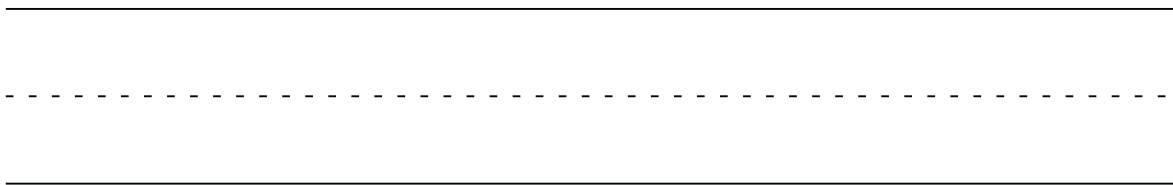
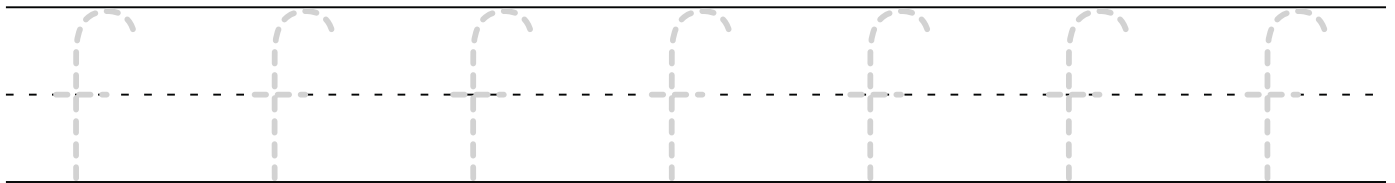
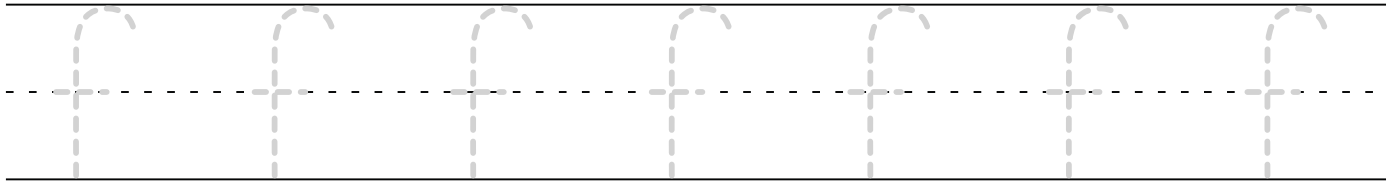
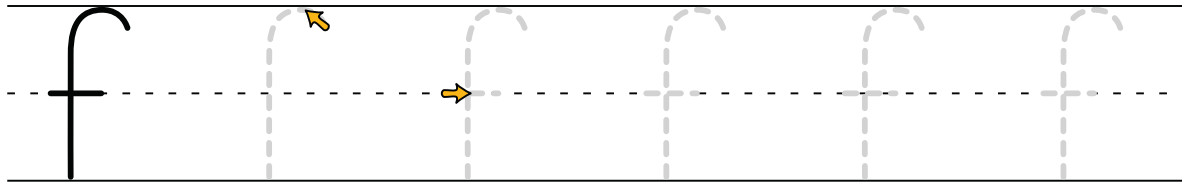
**Tip for parents:** This letter needs 3 strokes. Remind your child to always put the pencil tip down directly on the line he already drew before adding a new horizontal line to the letter. This ensures there are no gaps between the lines.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter f:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



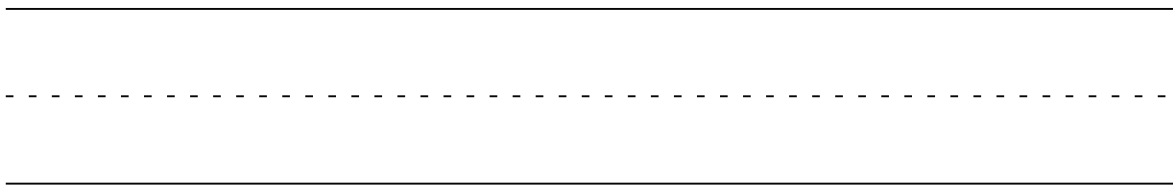
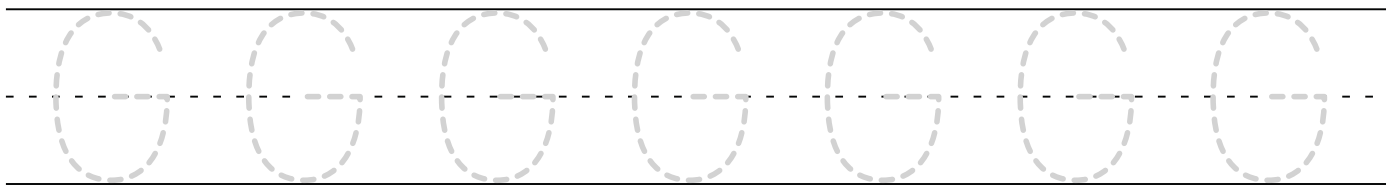
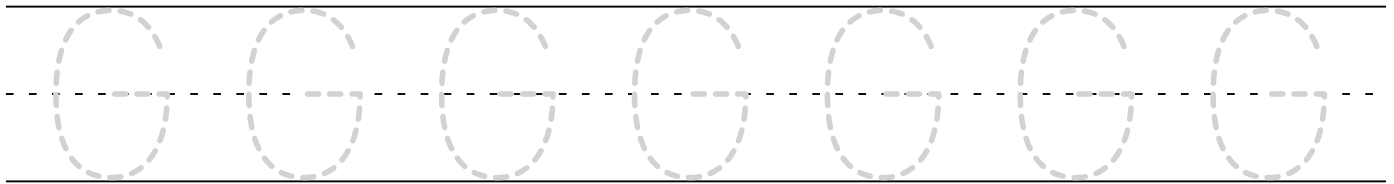
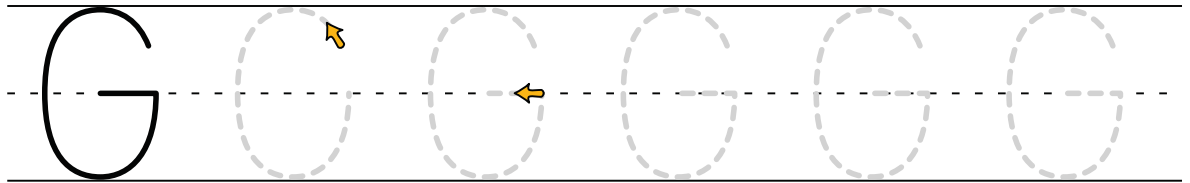
**Tip for parents:** Show your child how this letter looks like a candy cane. Direct your child to begin with the pencil slightly below the top black line to ensure he gets a nice hook at the top before continuing down to the bottom line.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter G:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



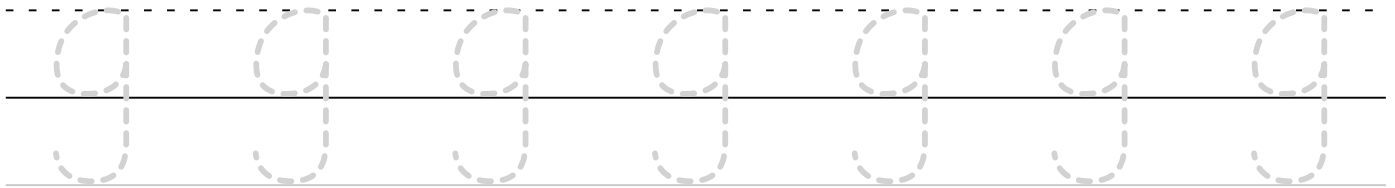
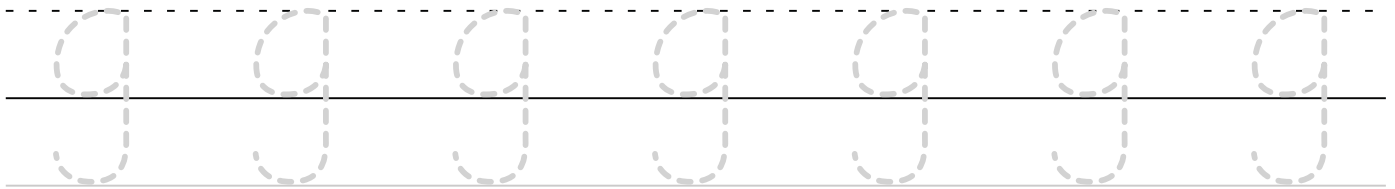
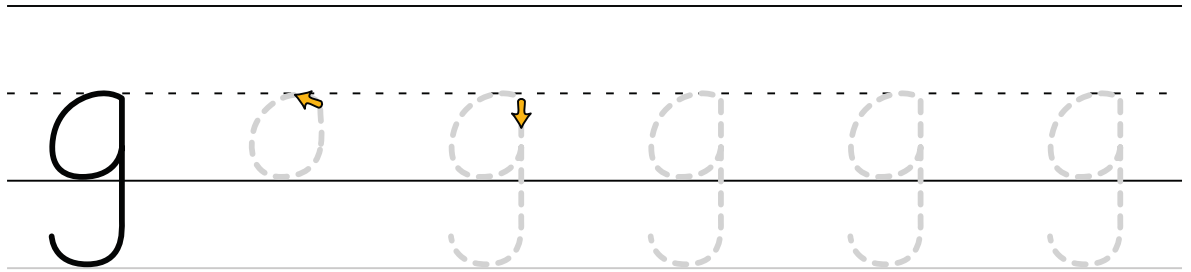
**Tip for parents:** This letter begins like a C, with a long, smooth curve. After making a complete curve, direct your child to stop and, without lifting the pencil, change direction to draw a short, horizontal line to the left.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter g:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



Blank handwriting lines (solid top and bottom lines with a dashed middle line) for independent practice.



SCHOOL SPARKS



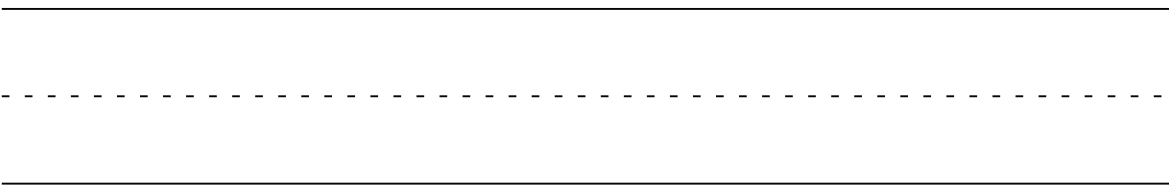
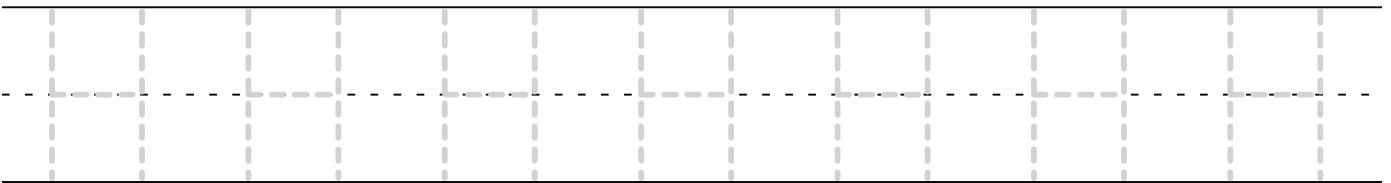
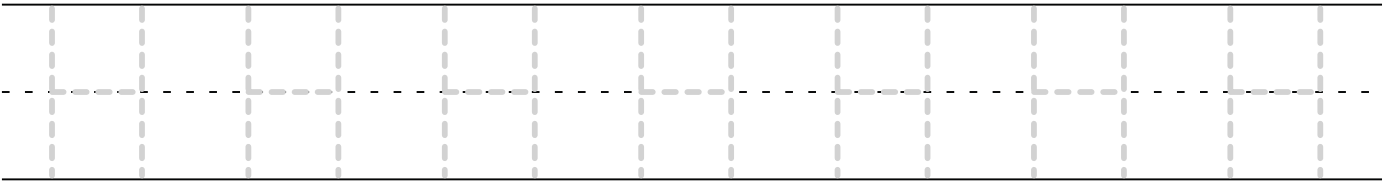
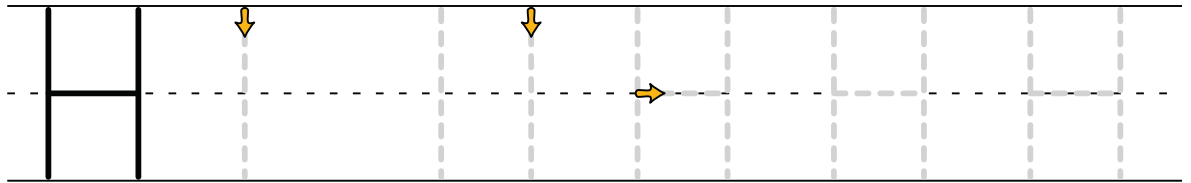
**Tip for parents:** This letter begins the same way as a lowercase a, but has a “monkey’s tail” hanging down past the lower line. Remind your child not to lift the pencil before adding the tail to the letter.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter H:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



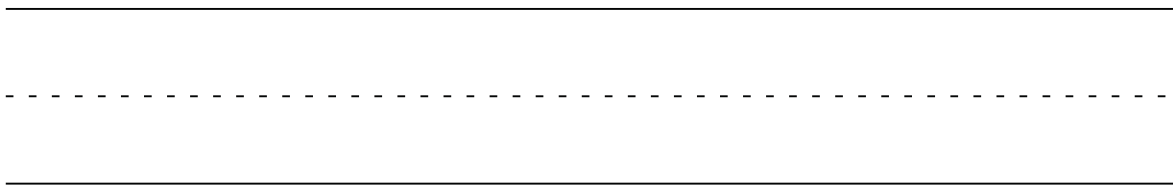
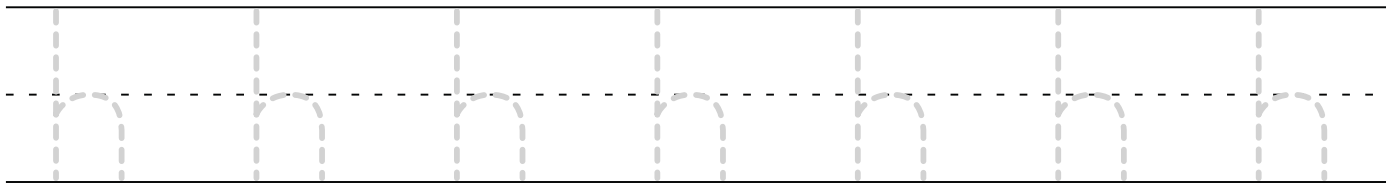
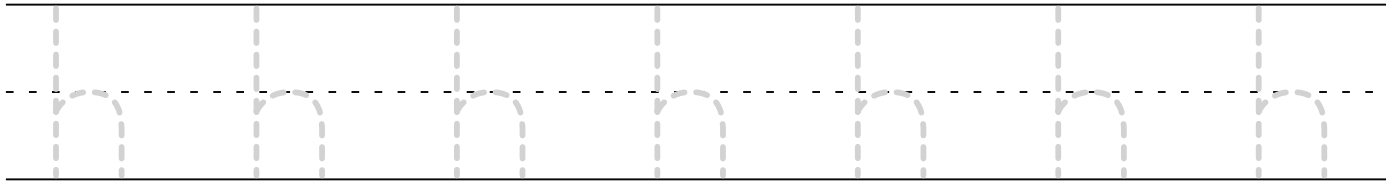
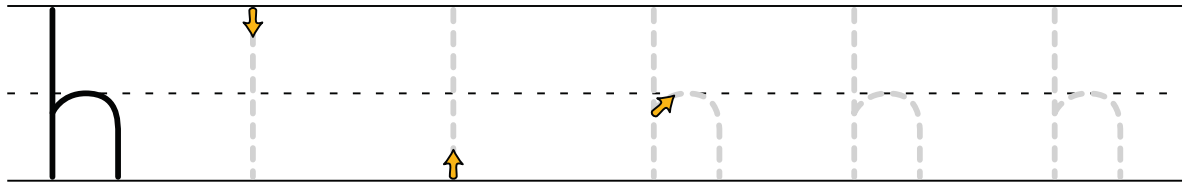
**Tip for parents:** After drawing the first vertical line, direct your child to draw a second, identical line one finger width away from the first line. Then, your child must lift the pencil and draw a line connecting the two vertical lines.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter h:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



**Tip for parents:** The key to a perfect h is a perfect hill. After your child draws the first vertical line downward, direct him to keep the pencil on the paper and retrace part of the line as he draws a hill directly next to the line.

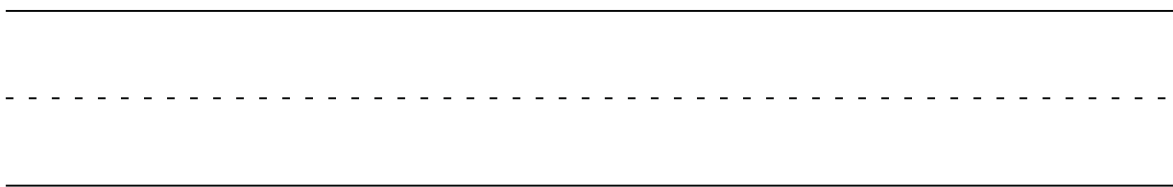
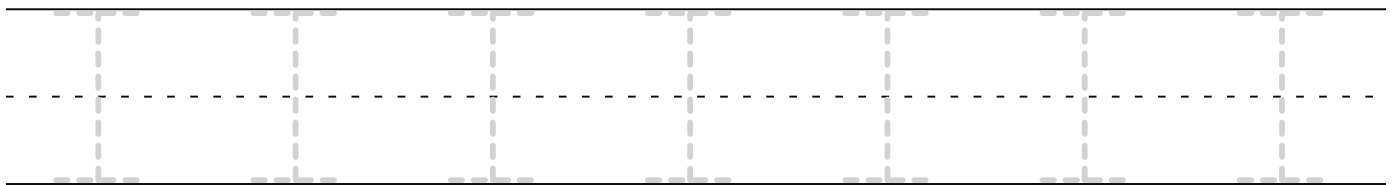
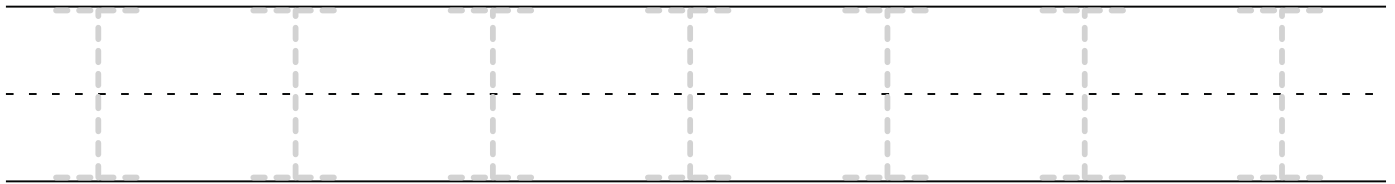
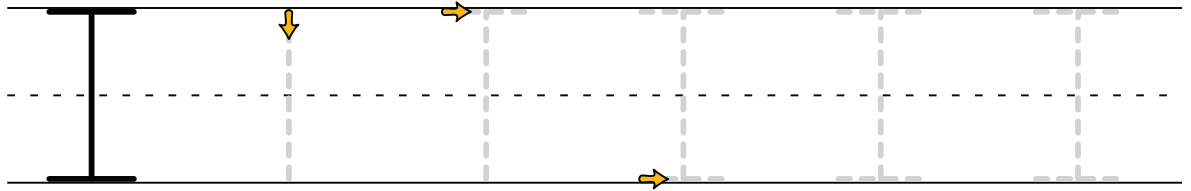
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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter I:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



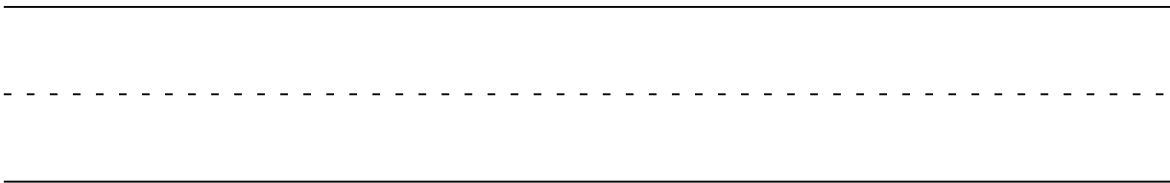
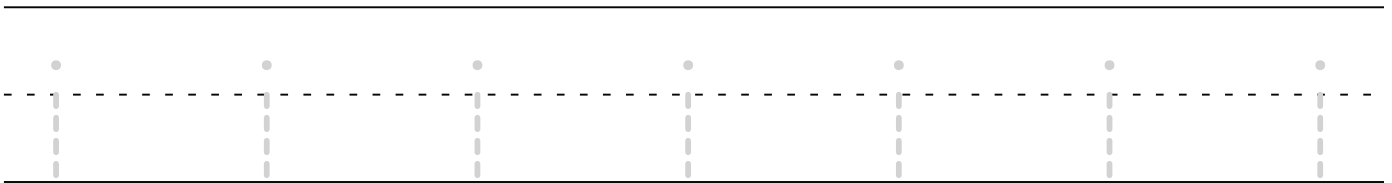
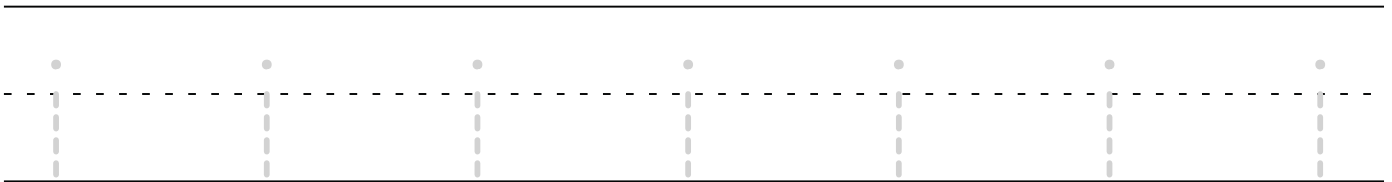
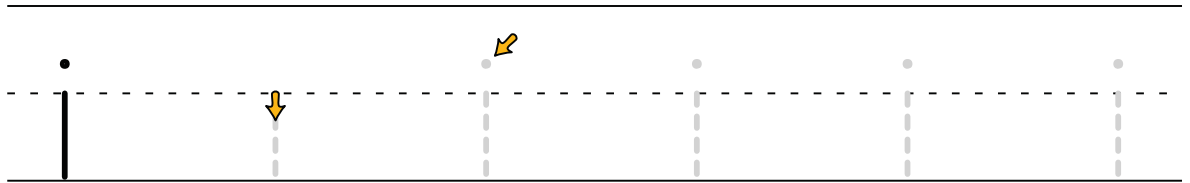
**Tip for parents:** The trick to writing this letter clearly is to show your child how the letter is symmetrical. The vertical line is the longest and the top and bottom lines should be centered on top and bottom of the vertical line.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter i:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



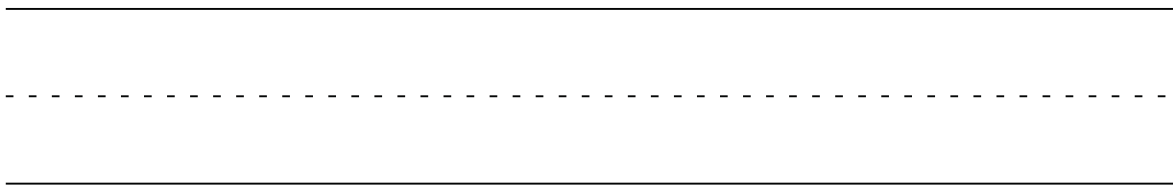
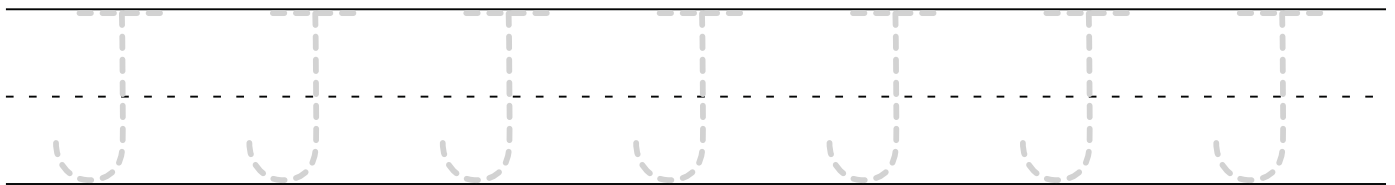
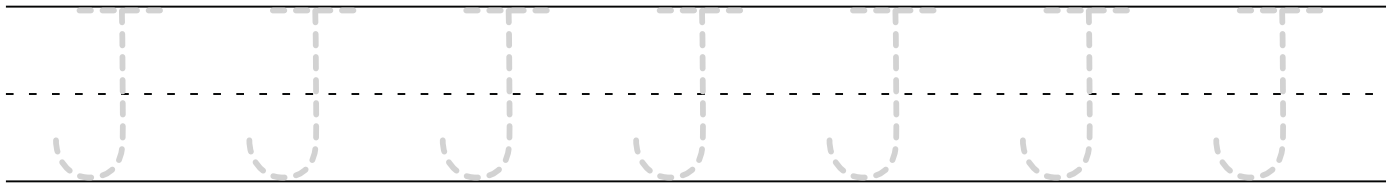
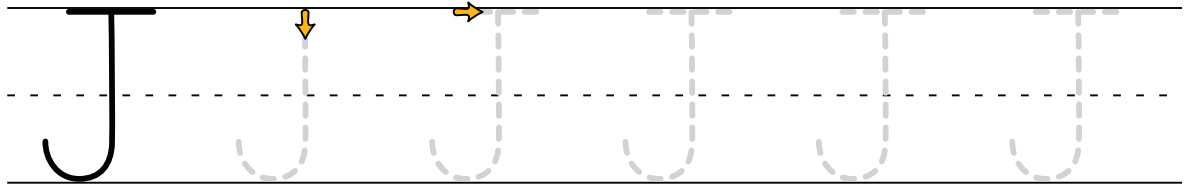
**Tip for parents:** While the short vertical line is easy for most children to draw, remind your child to always add a small dot over the line before moving on to the next letter. Without the dot, it is not an i.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter J:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



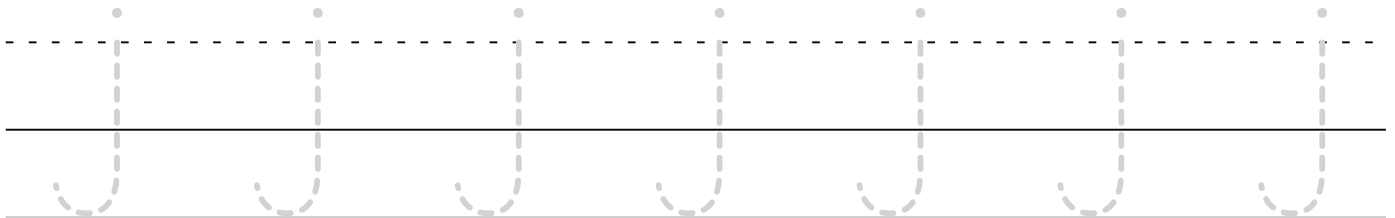
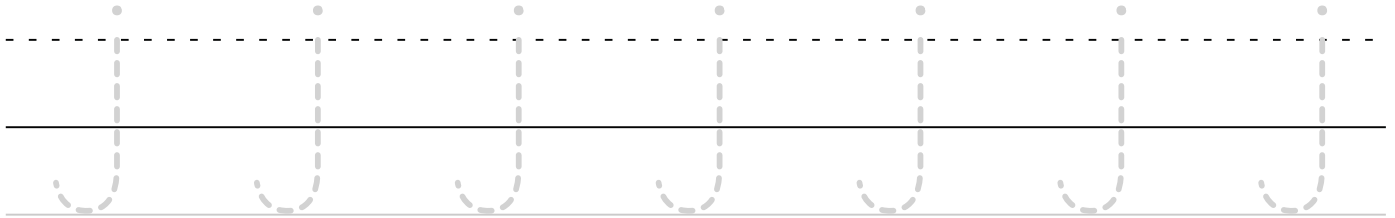
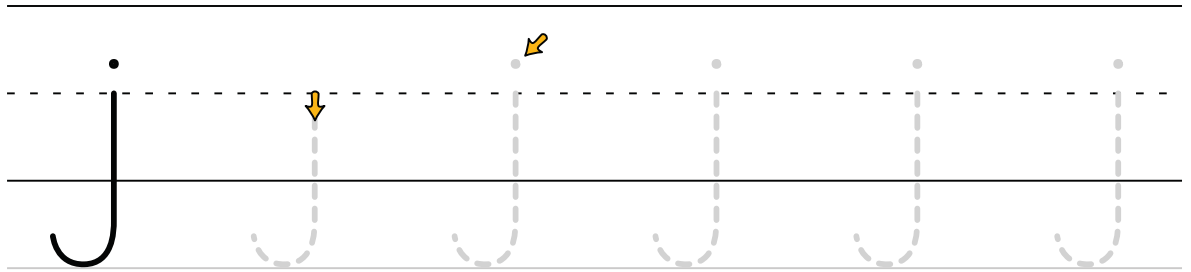
**Tip for parents:** While most writing requires children to draw from left to right, a J requires the opposite movement. As your child's vertical line nears the bottom line of the paper, direct him to "hook" backwards to the left.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter j:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



Blank handwriting lines for independent practice, consisting of a solid top line, a dashed midline, and a solid bottom line.



SCHOOL SPARKS



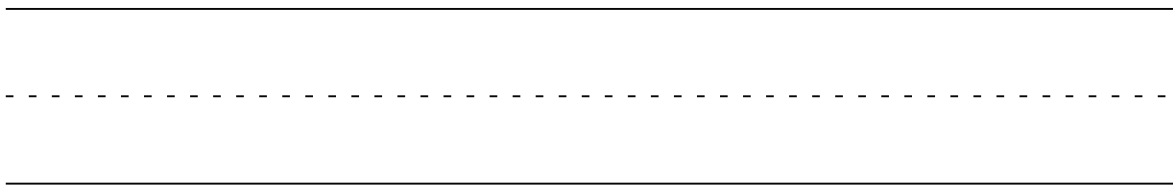
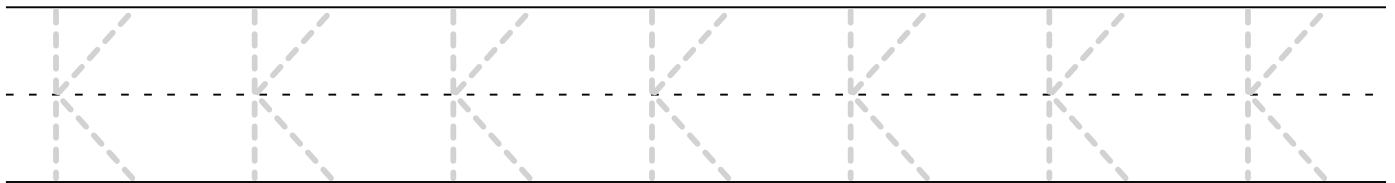
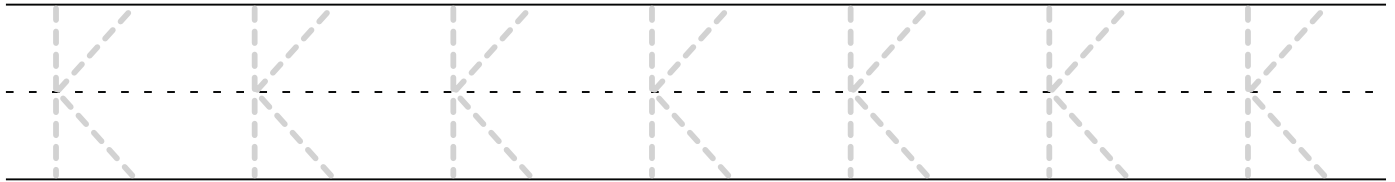
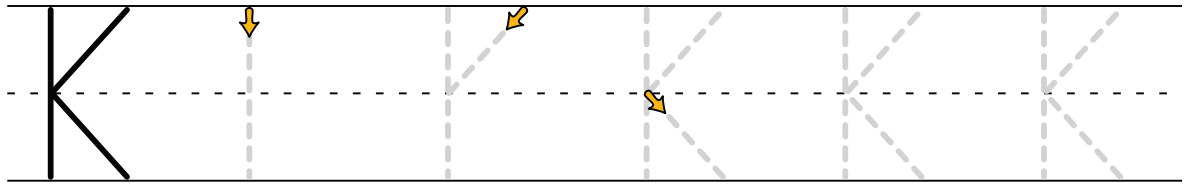
**Tip for parents:** As with the uppercase J, your child needs to draw in the backwards direction of right to left as he completes the bottom "hook" of the lowercase j. Remind your child to add a small dot above the letter at the end.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter K:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



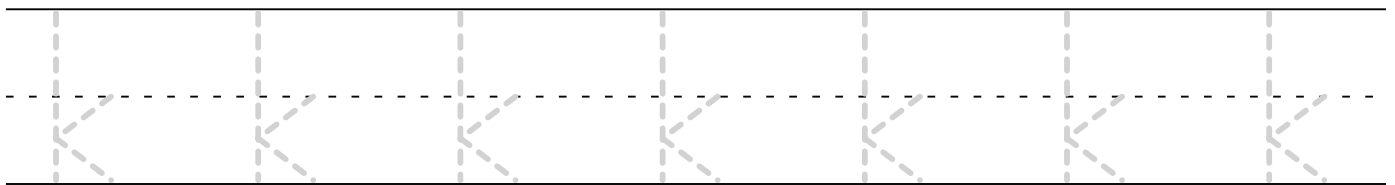
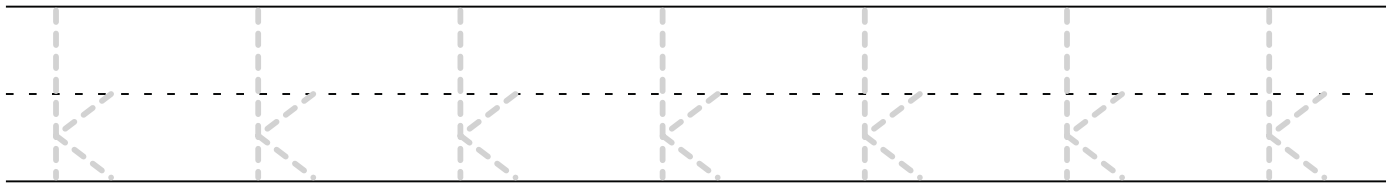
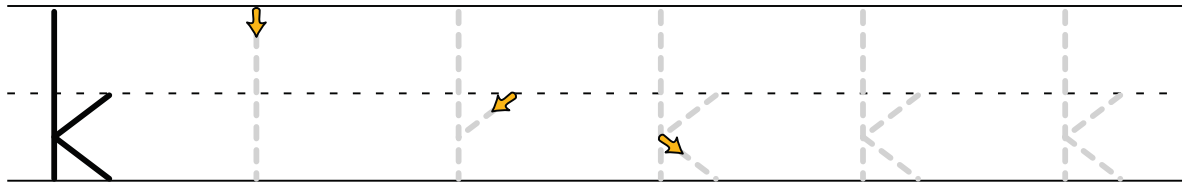
**Tip for parents:** Your child should pick up the pencil once while drawing this letter. After drawing the long vertical line, direct him to draw a "sideways uppercase V" that touches the first line at the dotted middle line in the center.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter k:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



Blank handwriting lines (top solid, middle dashed, bottom solid) for independent practice.



SCHOOL SPARKS



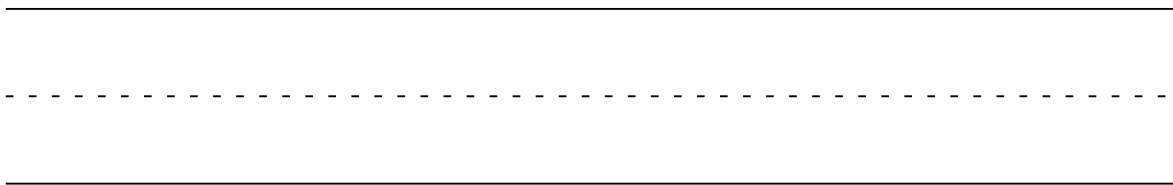
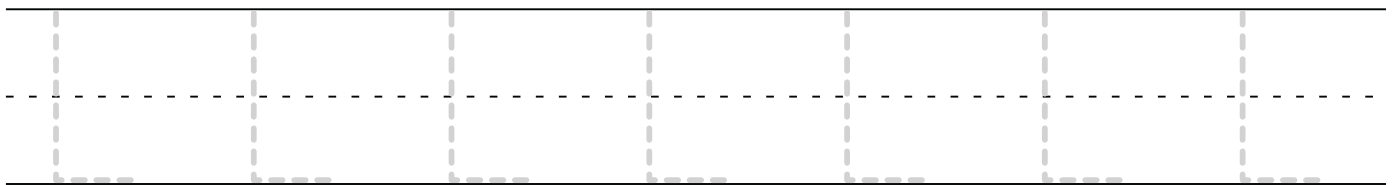
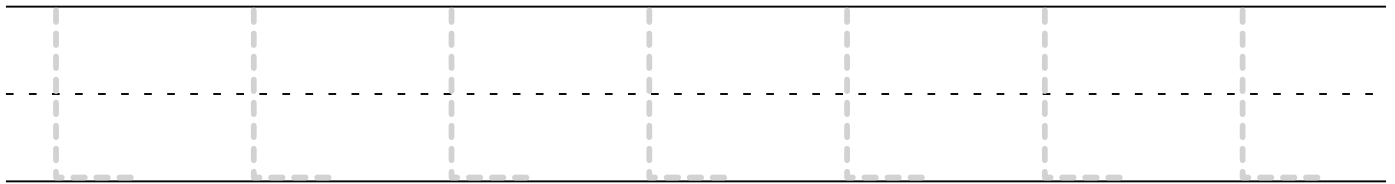
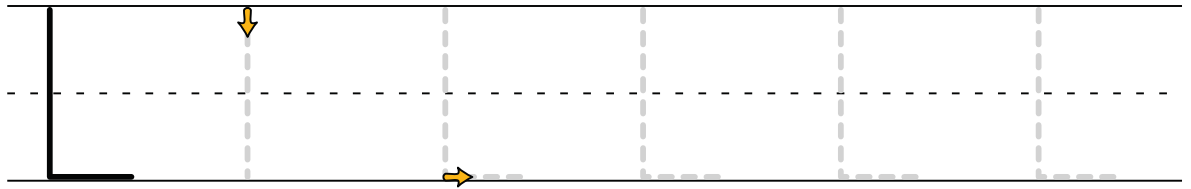
**Tip for parents:** Direct your child to draw a “sideways lowercase v” next to the long vertical line. The size and placement of the “sideways v” help to distinguish an uppercase K from a lowercase k.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter L:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



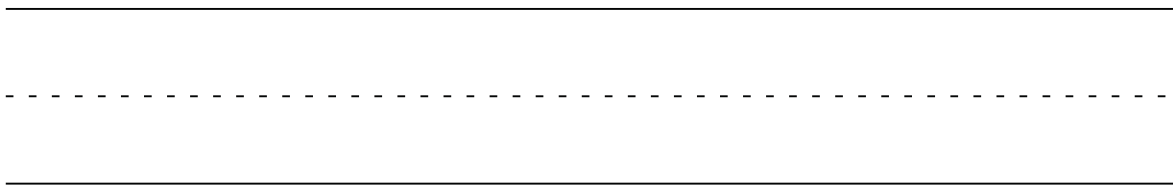
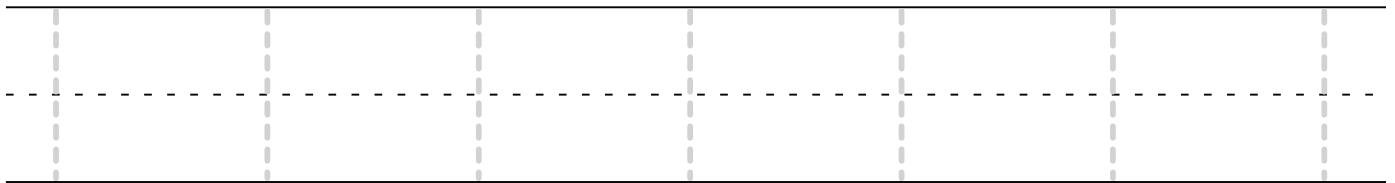
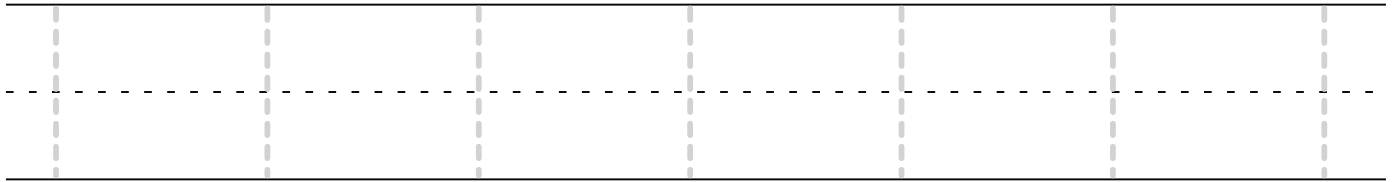
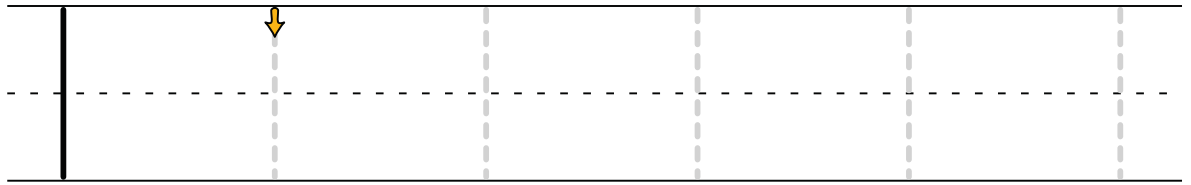
**Tip for parents:** This letter should be drawn in one stroke. After your child draws a straight line down, direct him to leave the pencil on the paper and change direction to draw the bottom line of the letter.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter I:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



**Tip for parents:** This is the easiest letter of all. The only trick is for your child to monitor the length of the line as he draws it, so that it remains proportional in size to the other letters being written.

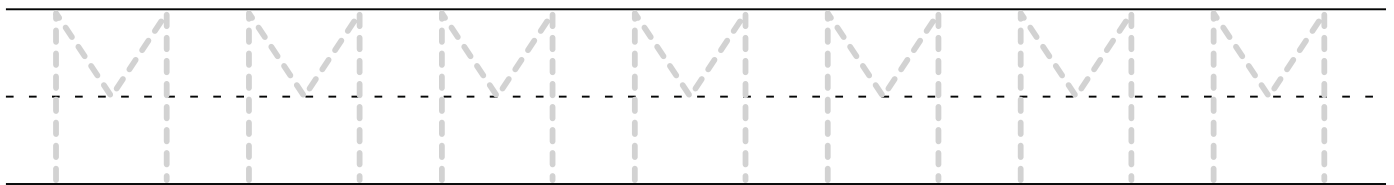
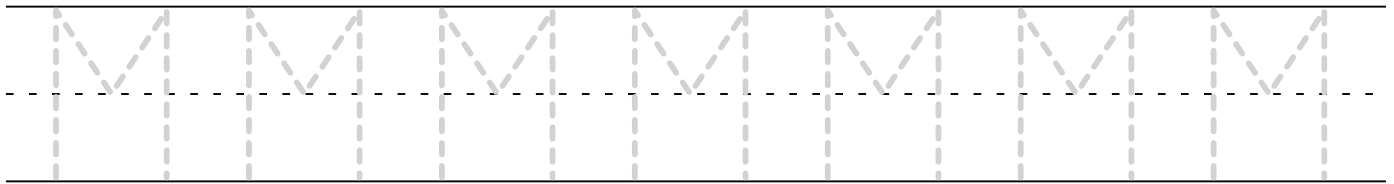
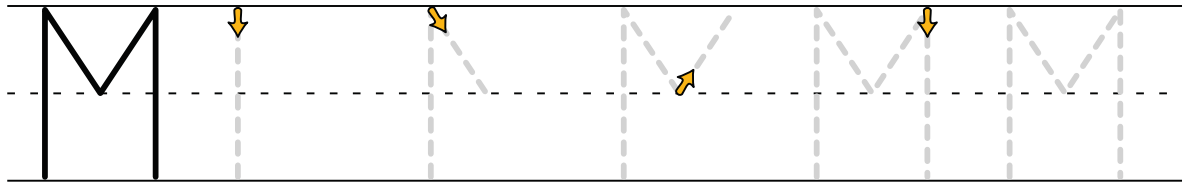
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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter M:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



Blank handwriting lines consisting of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line for independent practice.



SCHOOL SPARKS



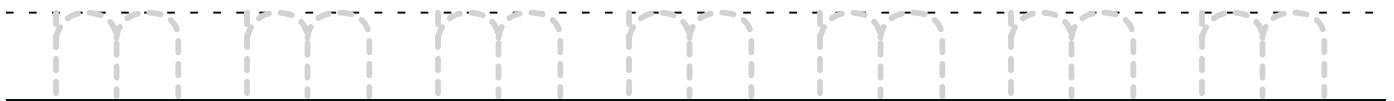
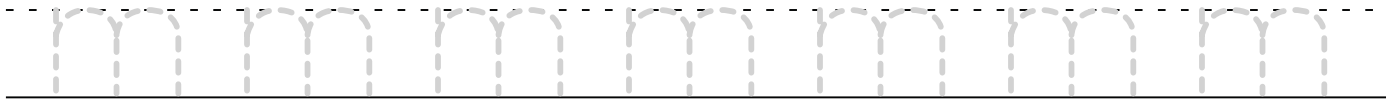
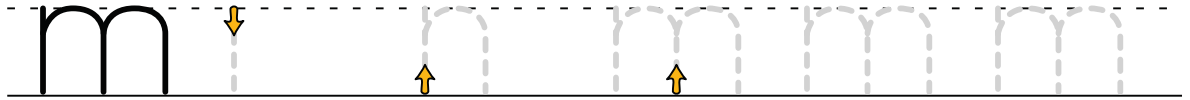
**Tip for parents:** This letter has 4 segments but only takes 2 strokes. After your child draws the first downward line, remind him to move the pencil back to the top of that line and not pick it up again until the letter is complete.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter m:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



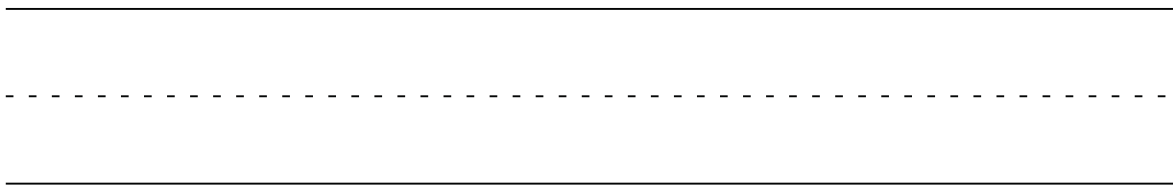
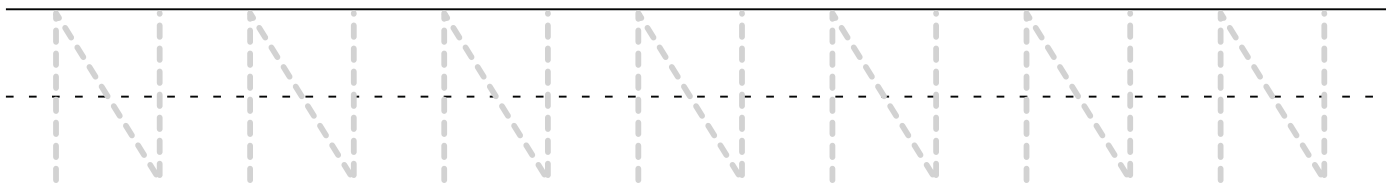
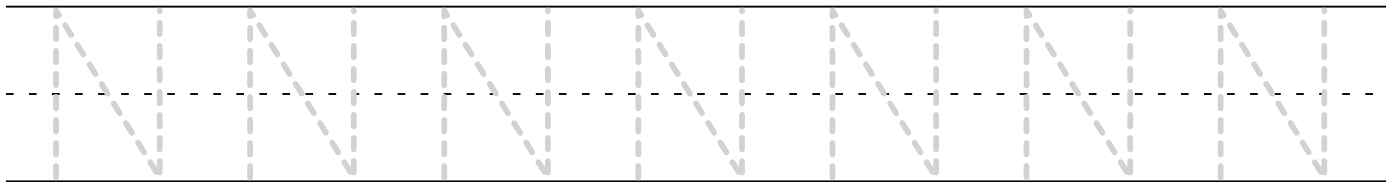
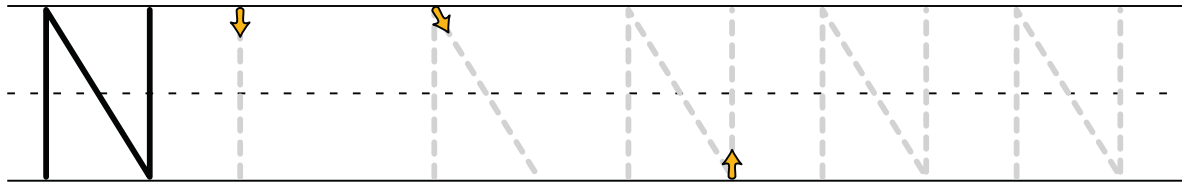
**Tip for parents:** This is the double mountain letter! Direct your child to complete the letter without lifting the pencil by first drawing one straight line, then drawing two mountains next to each other.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter N:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



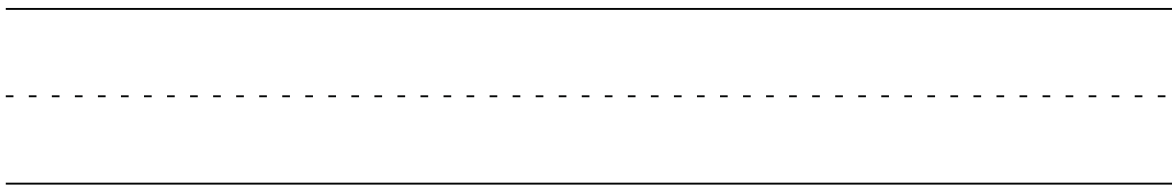
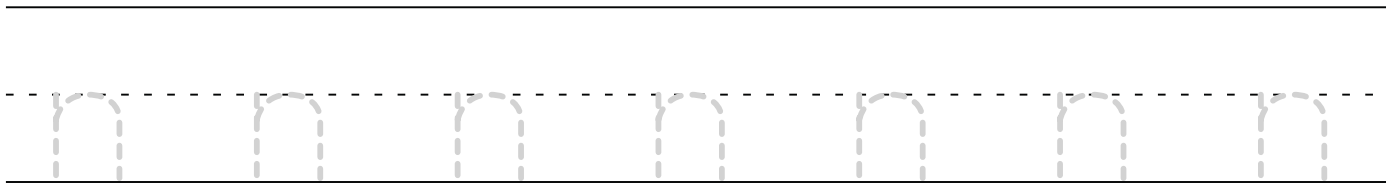
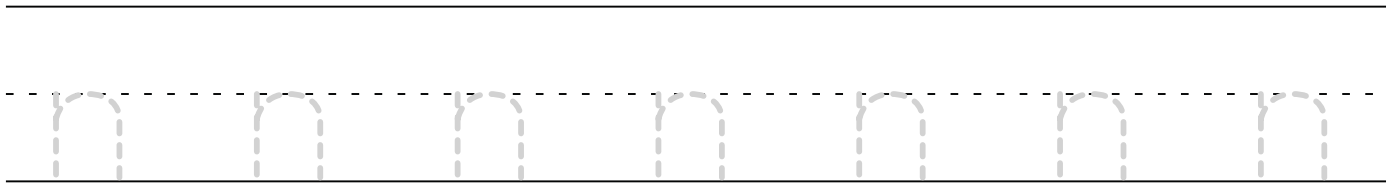
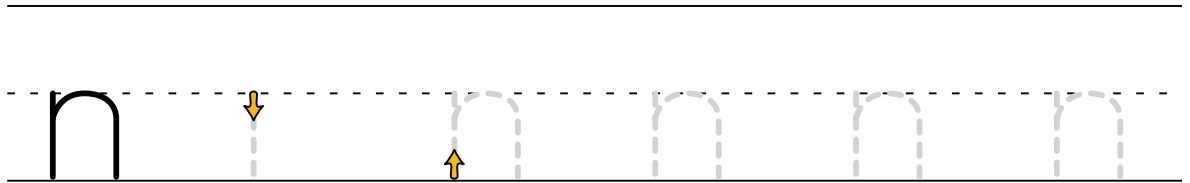
**Tip for parents:** Remind your child to begin writing this letter with the pencil at the top of the page. After drawing the first straight line, direct your child to pick up the pencil and draw the remaining two lines in one stroke.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter n:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



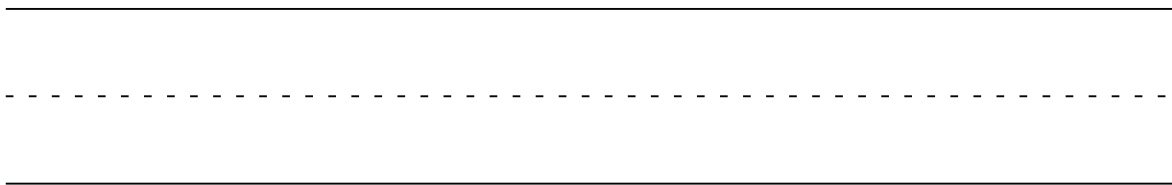
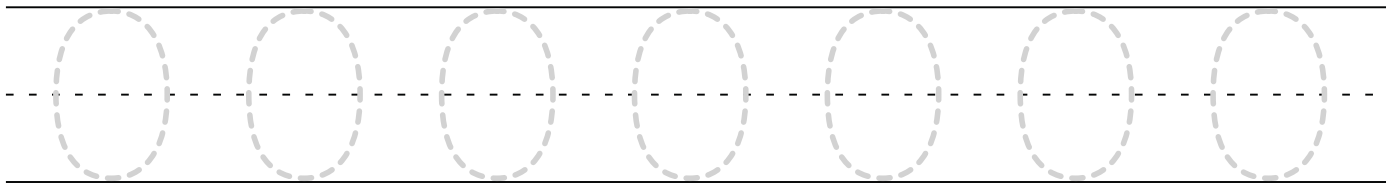
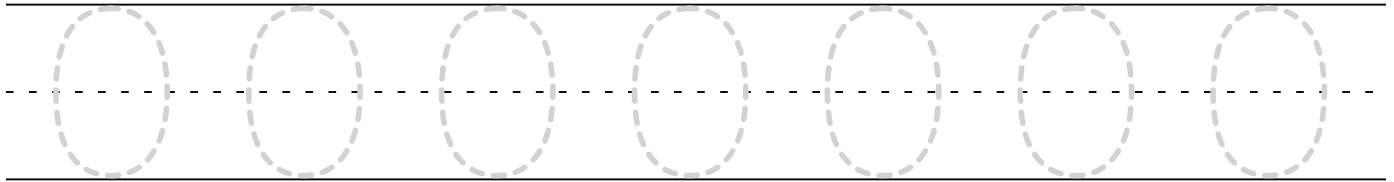
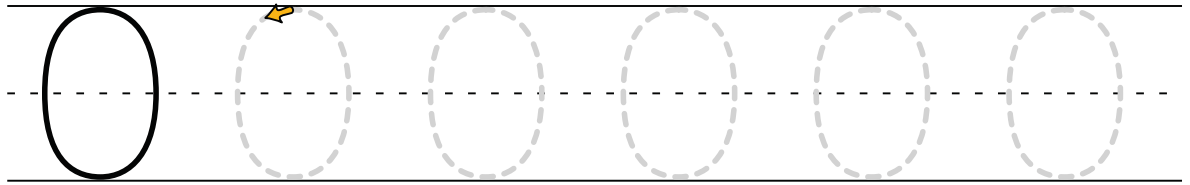
**Tip for parents:** This letter is formed in one stroke. After your child draws the first straight line, direct him to keep the pencil in place and, without lifting it, draw one mountain or hill next to the straight line he already drew.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter O:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



**Tip for parents:** This is an easy letter for most children to draw. Direct your child to make sure he draws the letter nice and round and that the pencil starts and ends on the same spot.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter o:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



O



SCHOOL SPARKS



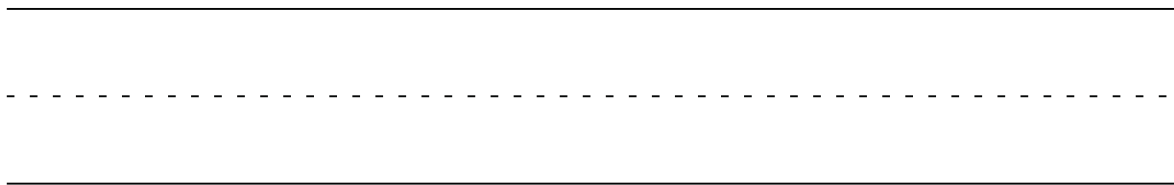
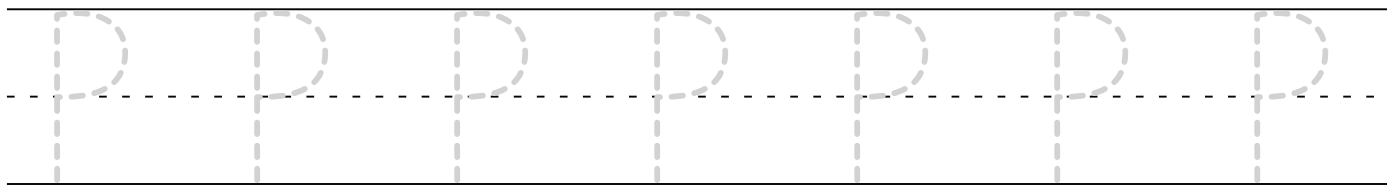
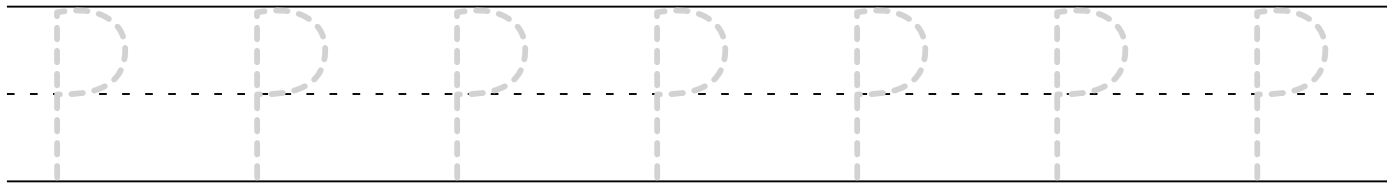
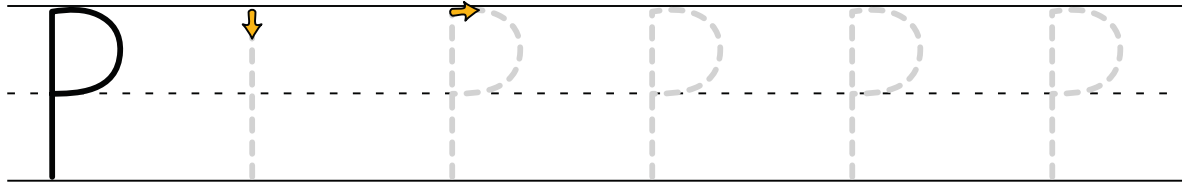
**Tip for parents:** A lowercase o is similar to the uppercase O, just smaller. Direct your child to make sure the pencil starts and stops on the same spot to ensure a smooth and complete circle.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter P:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



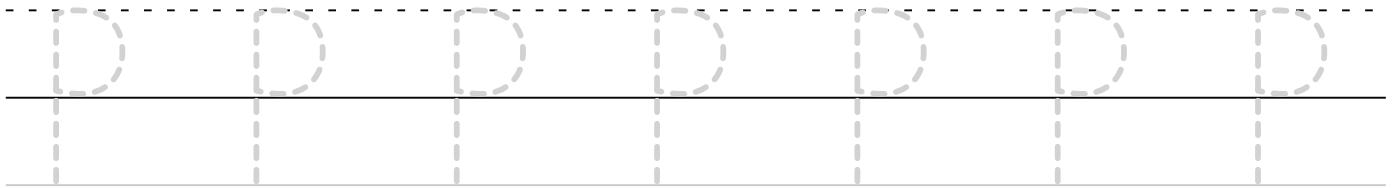
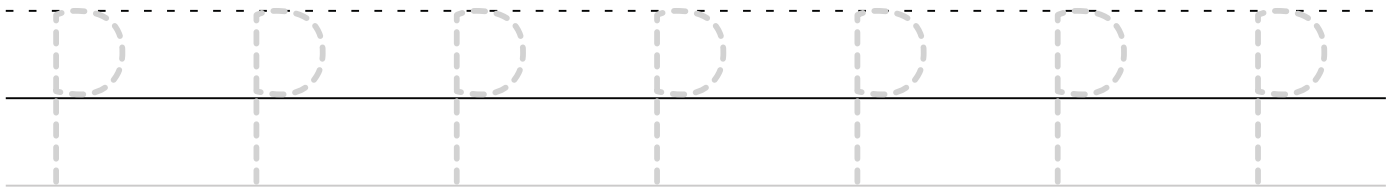
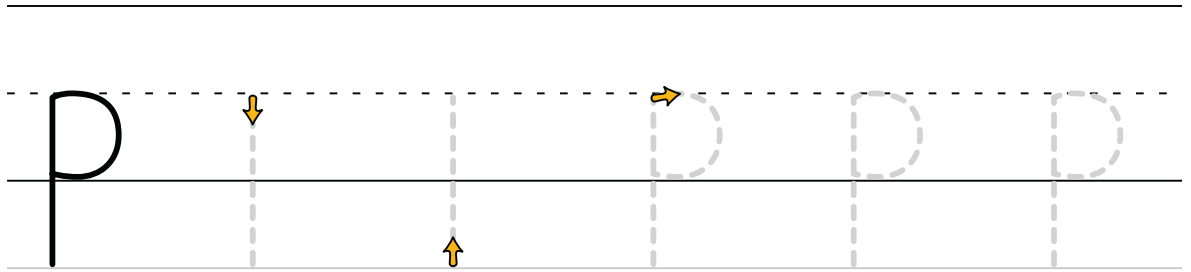
**Tip for parents:** This letter requires two different strokes. First your child needs to draw a straight line downward. Then direct him to lift the pencil and draw a half circle from the top of the line to the mid-point of the line.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter p:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



Blank handwriting lines (top solid, middle dashed, bottom solid) for independent practice.



SCHOOL SPARKS



**Tip for parents:** Unlike the uppercase P, this letter is made in one stroke. Direct your child to keep the pencil on the paper after drawing the first downward line and simply retrace that line before drawing a loop at the top.

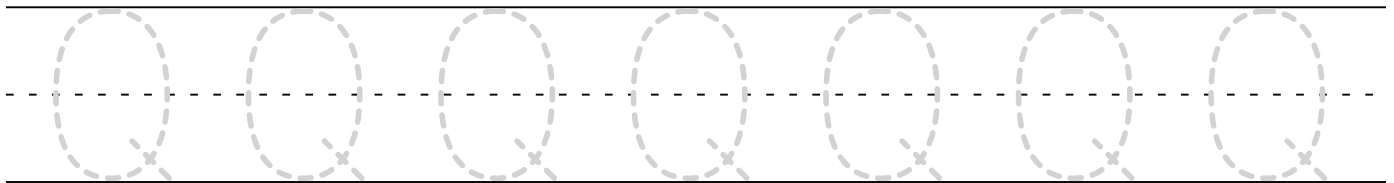
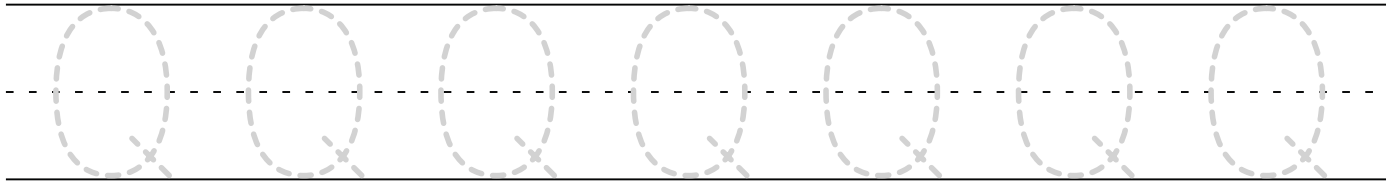
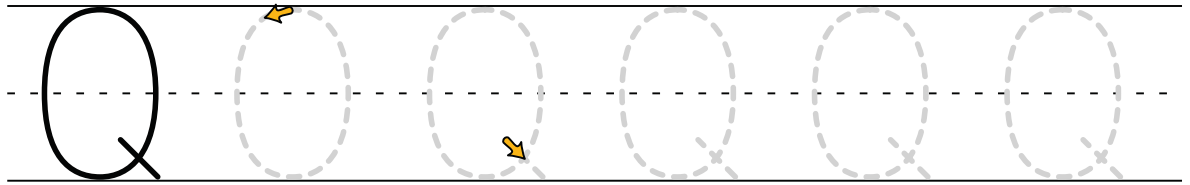
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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter Q:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.

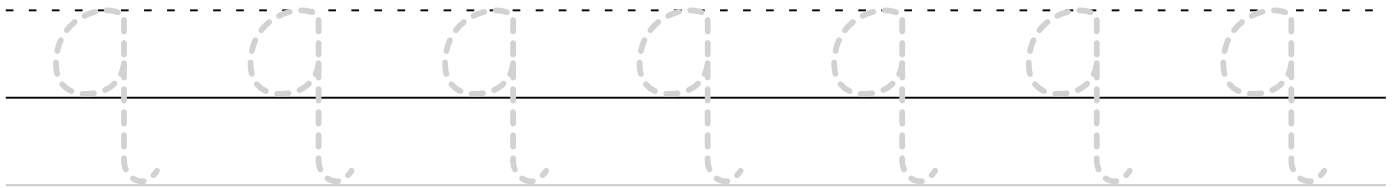
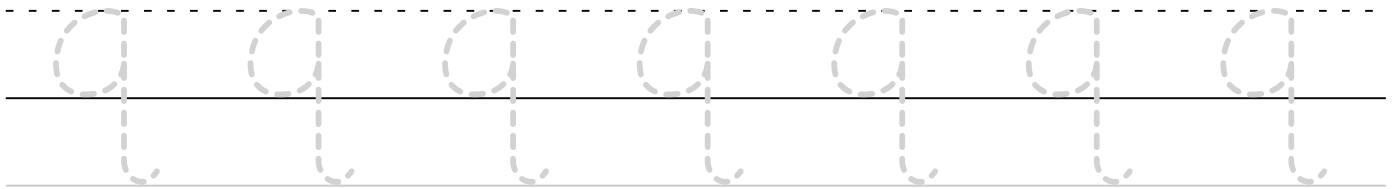
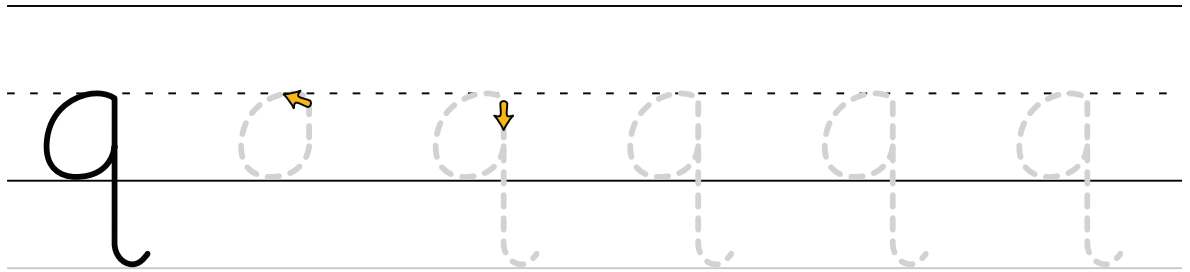


Blank handwriting lines (top solid, middle dashed, bottom solid) for independent practice.



# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter q:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



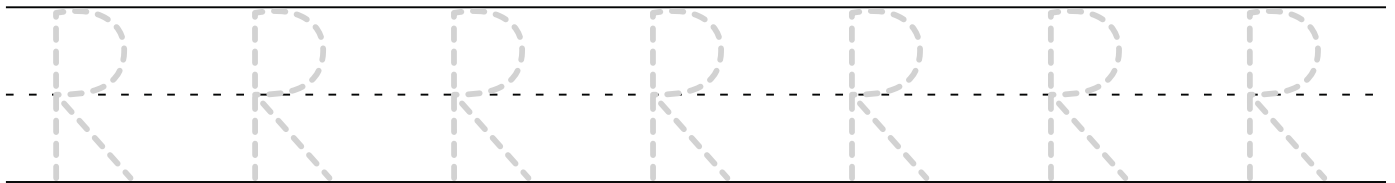
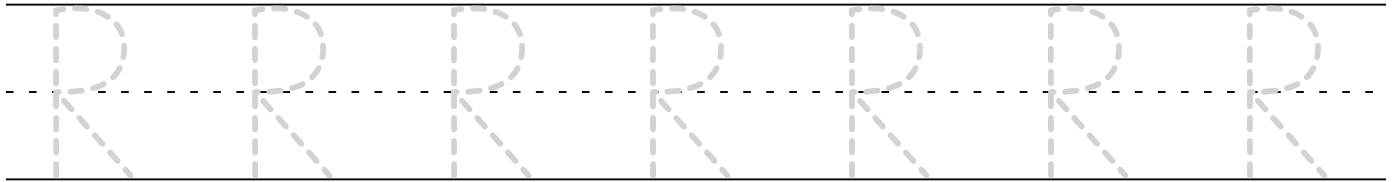
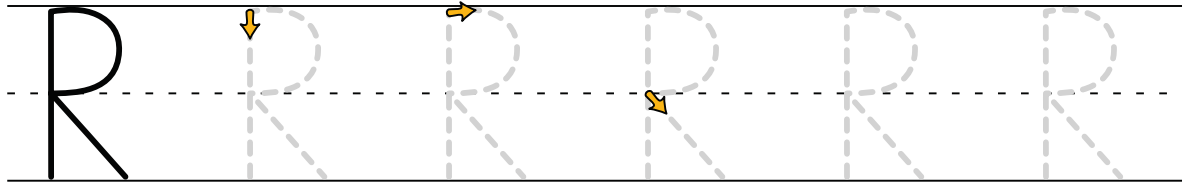
**Tip for parents:** Remind your child to draw this letter in one stroke, so the loop and downward line are connected seamlessly. As he completes the straight line downward, remind him to hook to the right to give the letter its tail.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter R:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



Blank handwriting lines consisting of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line.



SCHOOL SPARKS



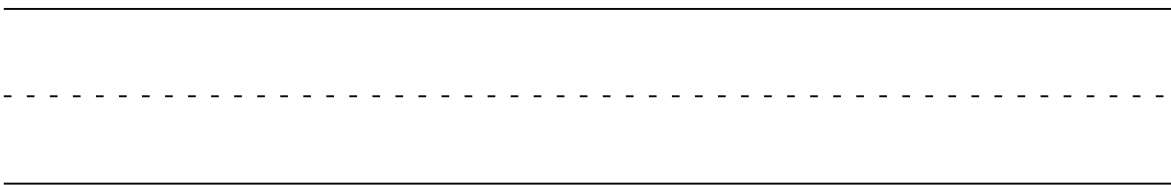
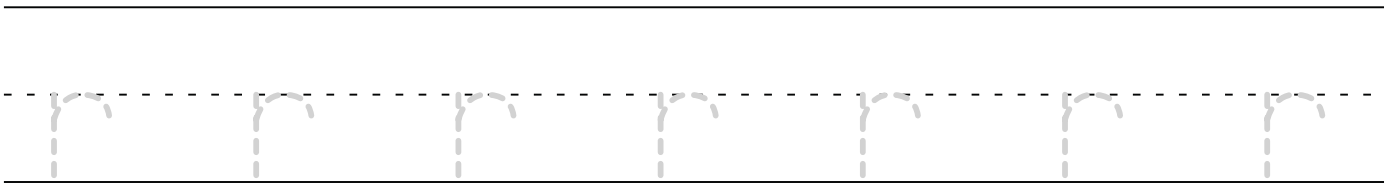
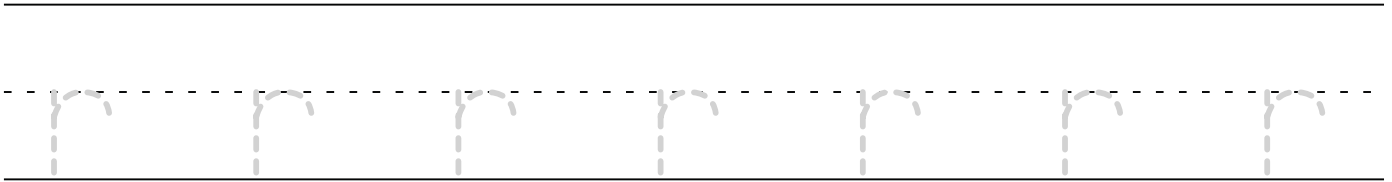
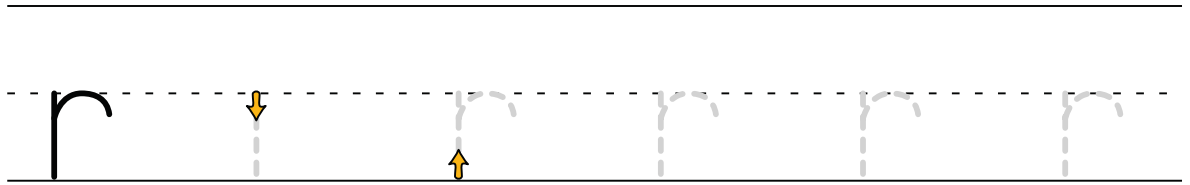
**Tip for parents:** Children love to think of this letter as a "P with a leg." After your child has drawn an uppercase P, direct him to leave the pencil on the paper and add a "leg" that moves diagonally down to touch the bottom line.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter r:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



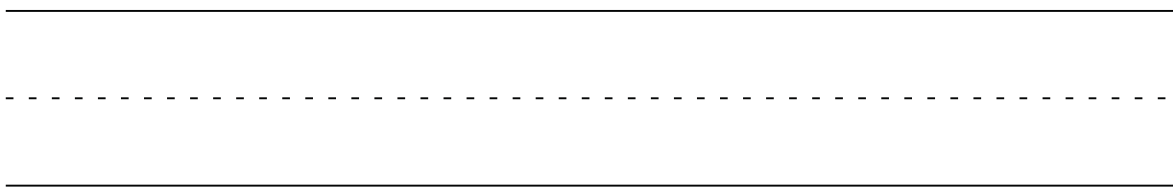
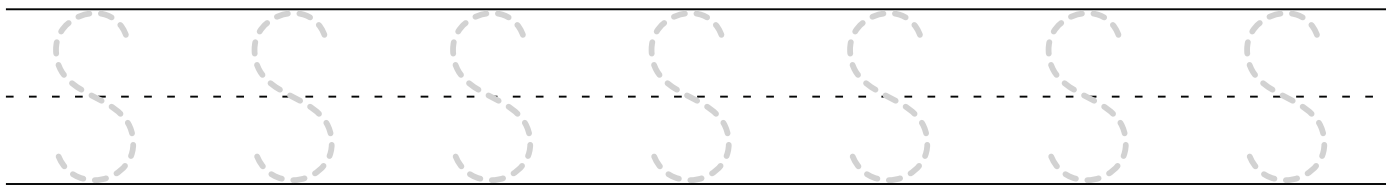
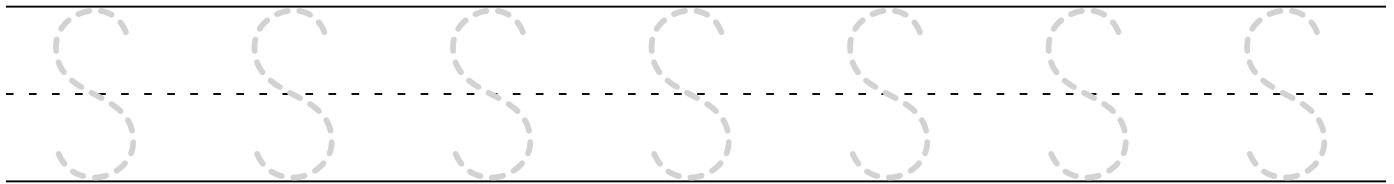
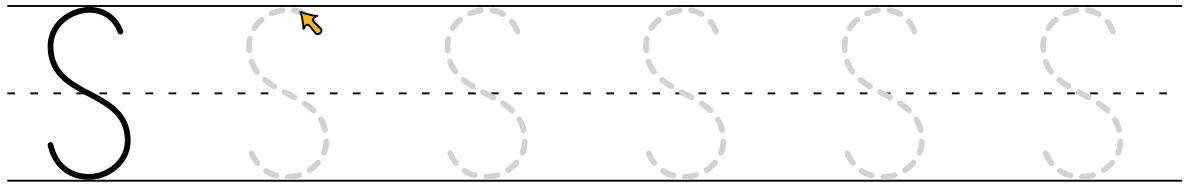
**Tip for parents:** This letter is similar to a lowercase n but does not have a complete hump. Direct your child to begin drawing the hump as usual, but to stop shortly after the pencil passes the tallest part of the hump.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter S:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



**Tip for parents:** The S is challenging to write because of the two curves and the direction change in the middle. Tell your child to "draw a forward c, keep the pencil on the paper, and then draw a backward c."

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter s:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



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SCHOOL SPARKS



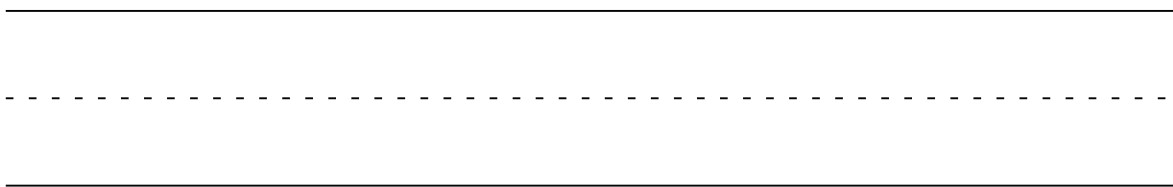
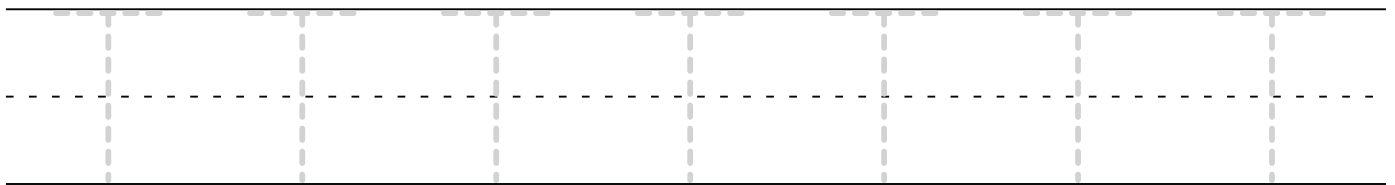
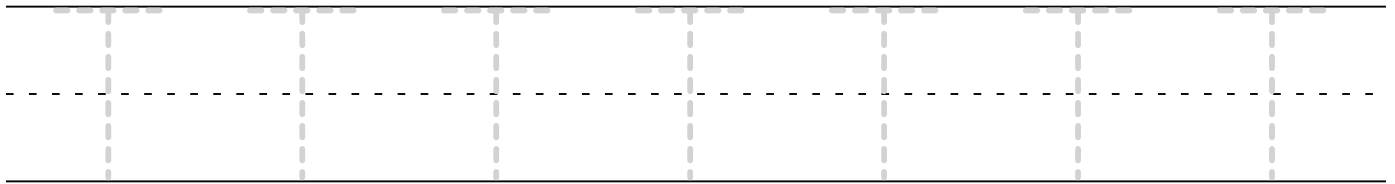
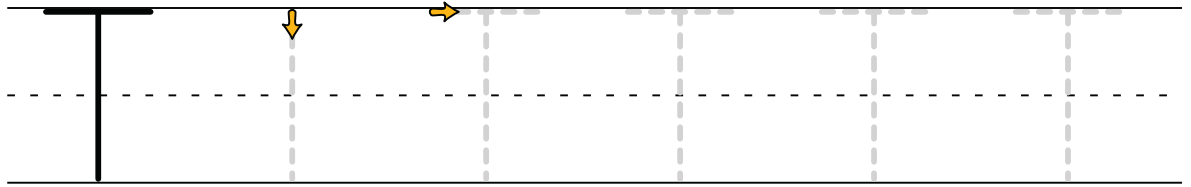
**Tip for parents:** The smaller the letter, the more complicated it is for little hands to form. Fortunately, the lowercase s is an exact miniature of the uppercase S, using the same "forward c, backward c" formation.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter T:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



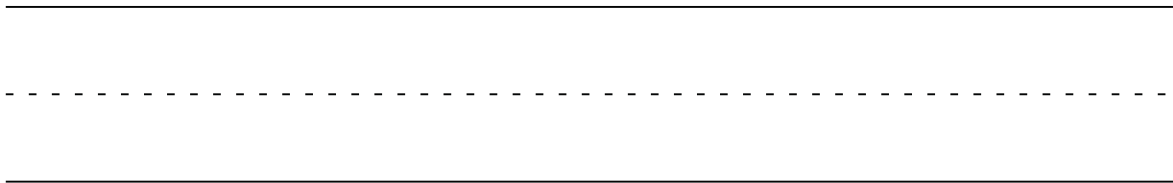
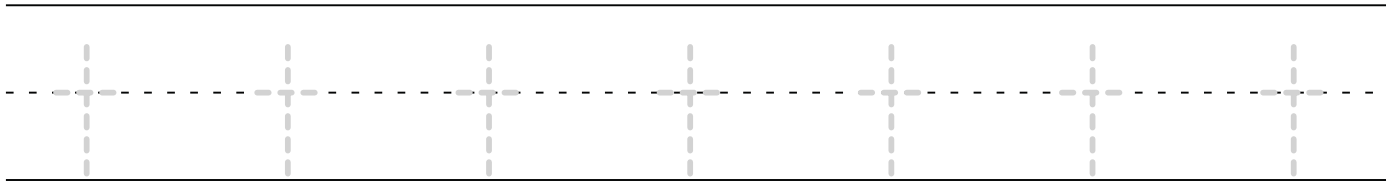
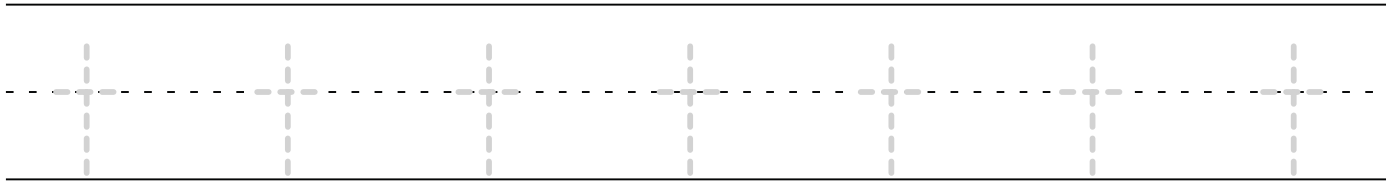
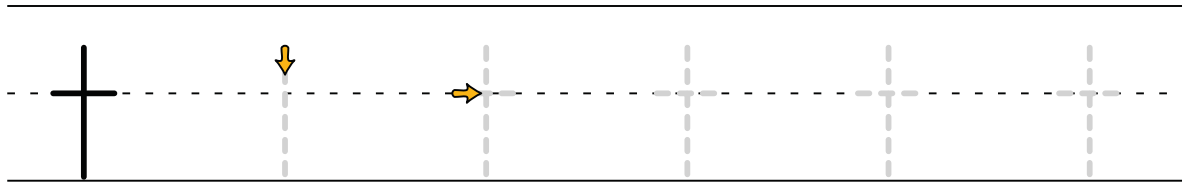
**Tip for parents:** After your child draws the initial long line downward, remind him to pay attention to the length of the horizontal line on top to ensure that it extends equally on both sides of the vertical line.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter t:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



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**Tip for parents:** The lowercase t is not as tall as the uppercase T but not as short as most lowercase letters. Show your child how to begin writing this letter by starting in the white space between the lines rather than on a line.

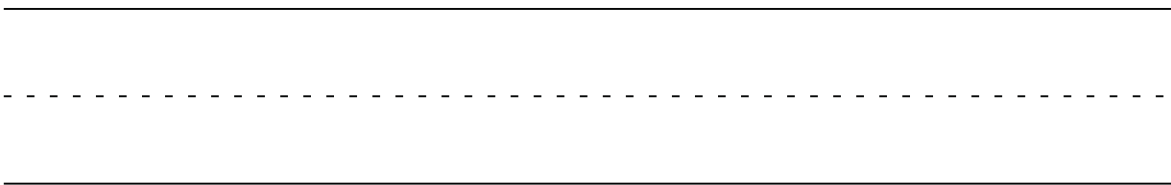
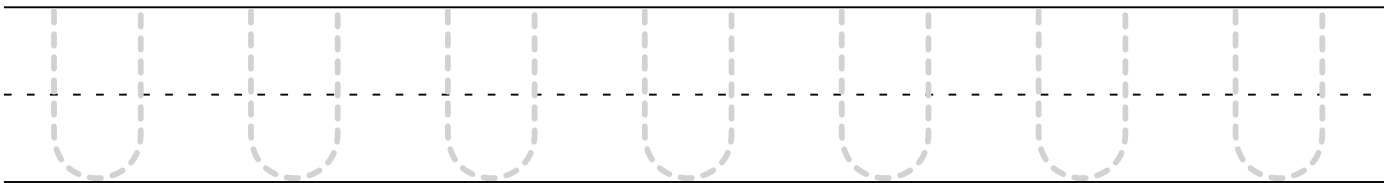
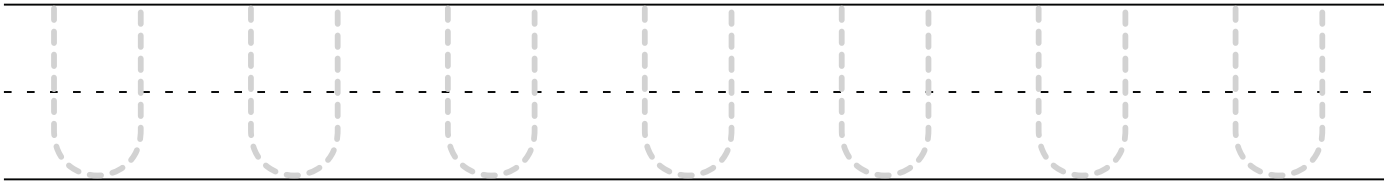
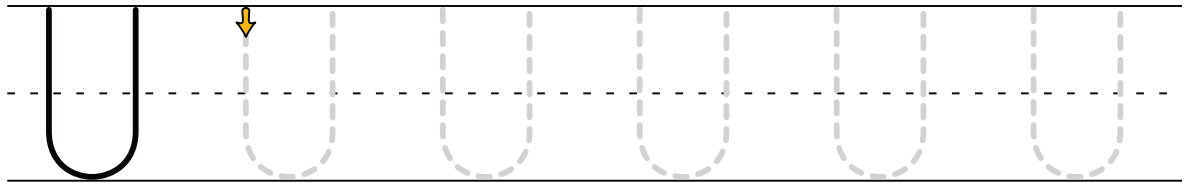
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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter U:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



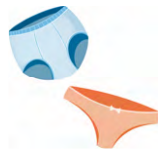
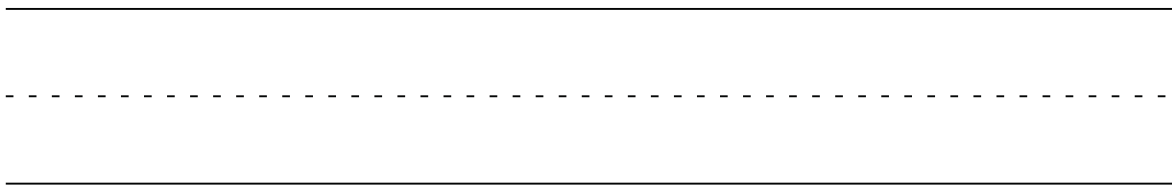
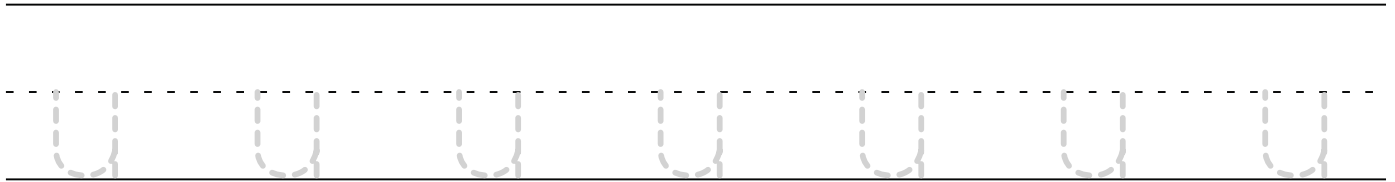
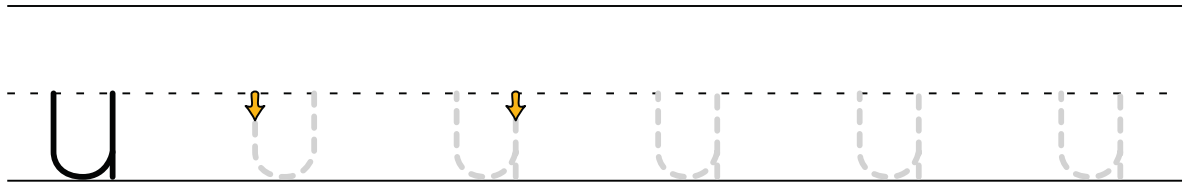
**Tip for parents:** As your child draws this letter, remind him that the second vertical line needs to return all the way back to the solid black line at the top. This way, the letter is the same height on both sides.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter u:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



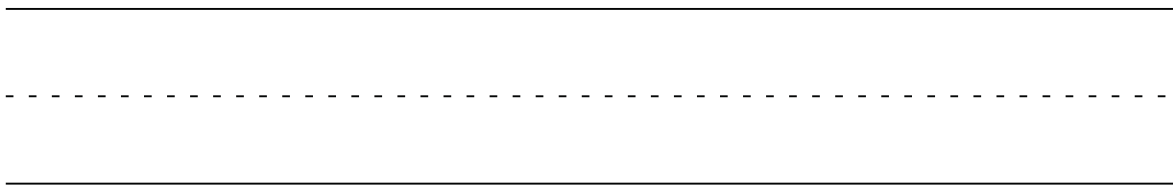
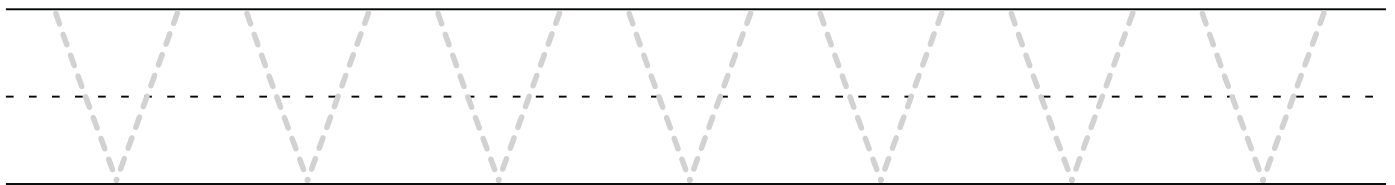
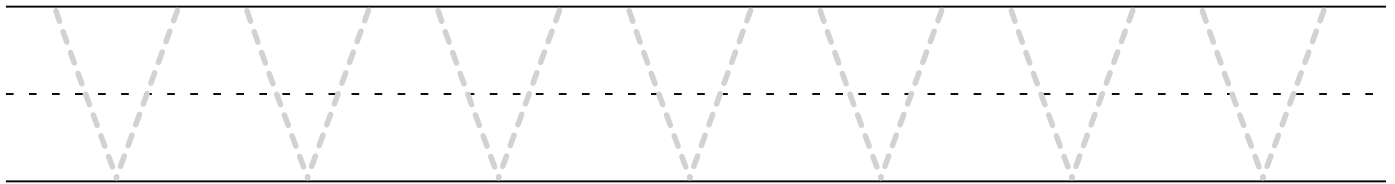
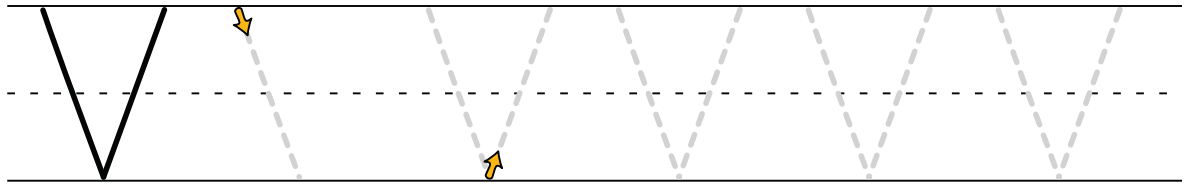
**Tip for parents:** This letter is drawn in a single stroke, without lifting up the pencil. After your child completes the initial hook shape, remind him to change direction and draw an additional straight line down.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter V:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



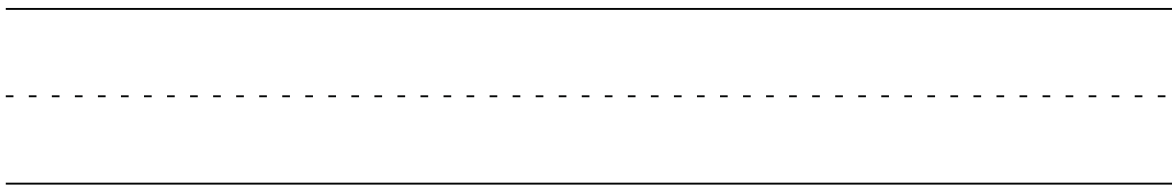
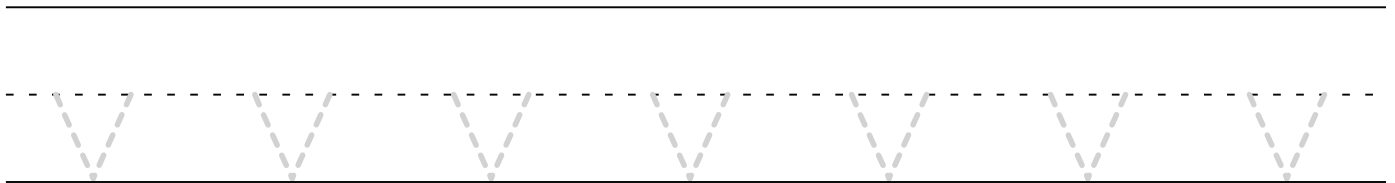
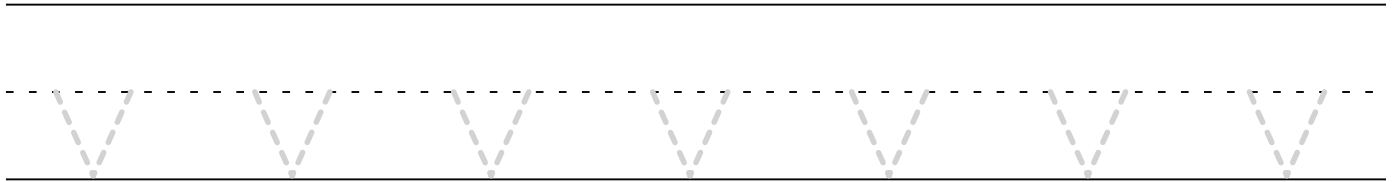
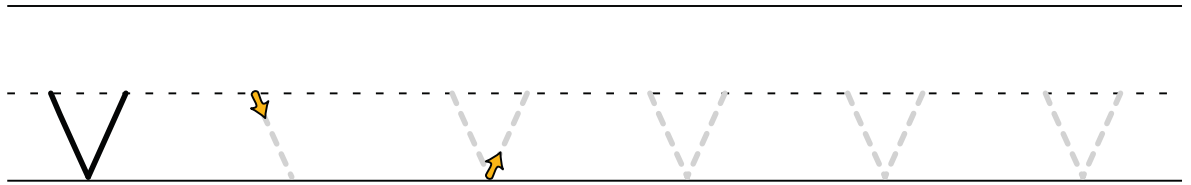
**Tip for parents:** The uppercase V is drawn in one stroke, without lifting up the pencil. Direct your child to first draw a slanted vertical line downward, then change the direction of the pencil and go back to the top line.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter v:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



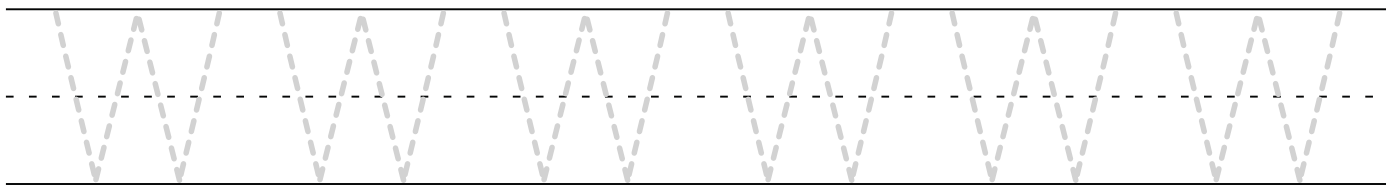
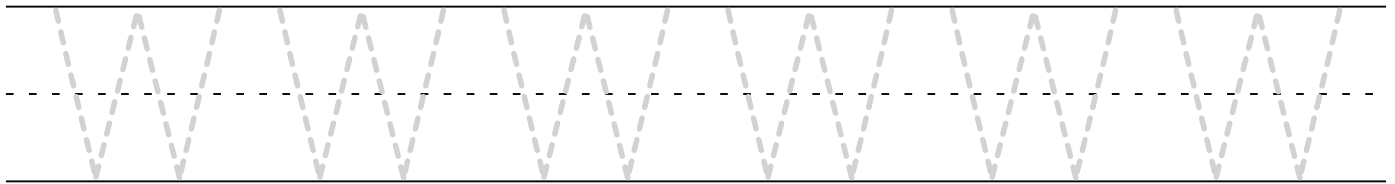
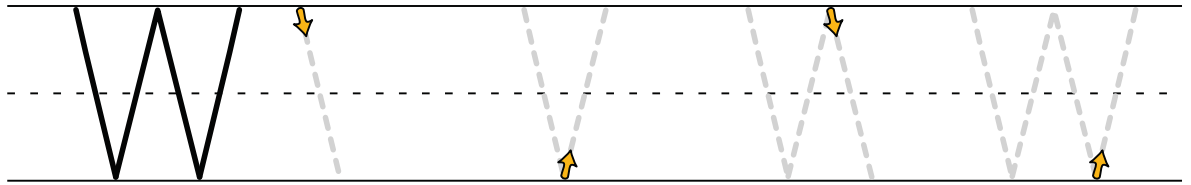
**Tip for parents:** Show your child how a lowercase v is identical to an uppercase V, just smaller. While the uppercase V takes up the full line on the paper, the lowercase v is half as tall.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter W:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



Blank three-line grid for independent writing practice.



SCHOOL SPARKS



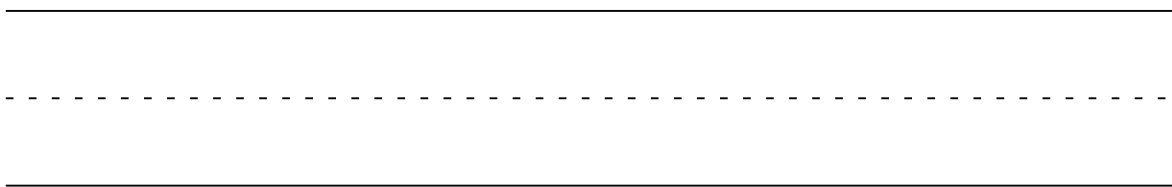
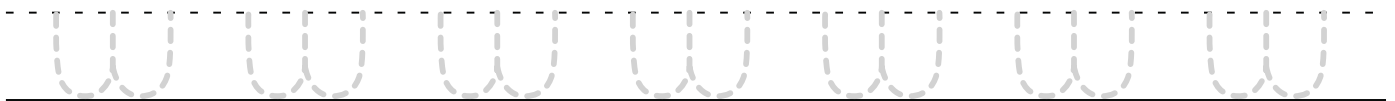
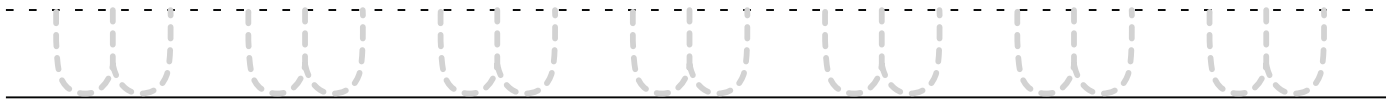
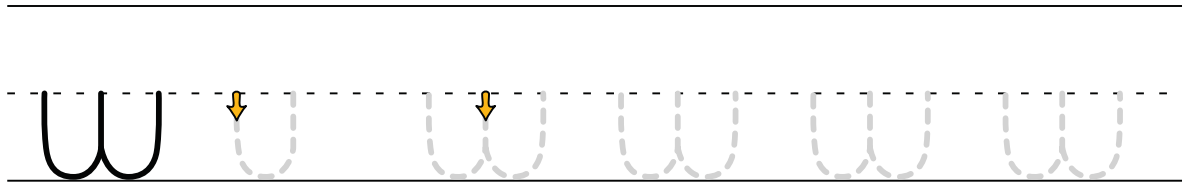
**Tip for parents:** This letter has four different segments, but is drawn with one continuous stroke. Explain to your child how each line should stretch all the way from the top black line to the bottom black line.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter w:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



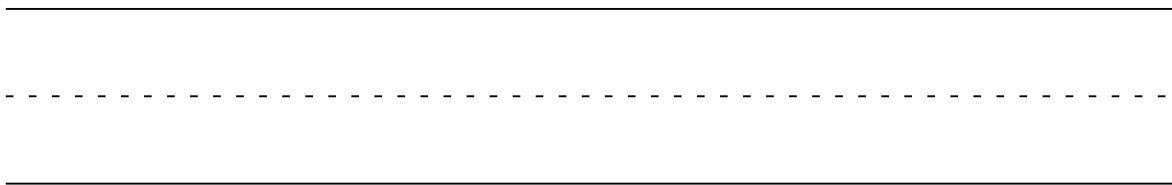
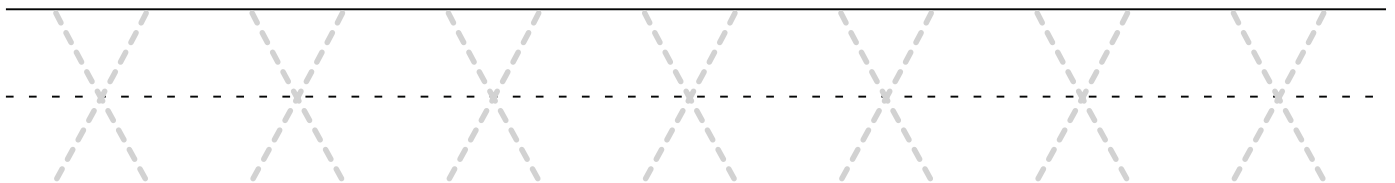
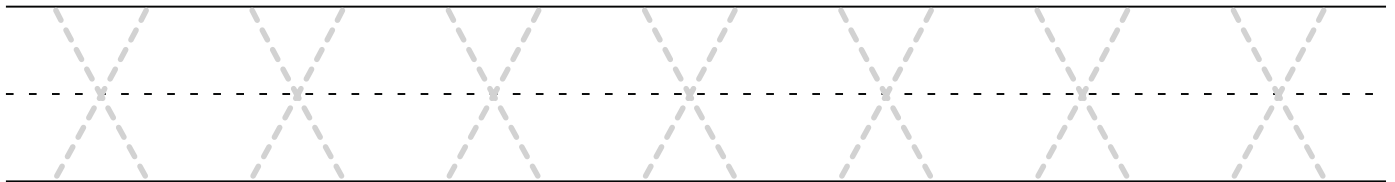
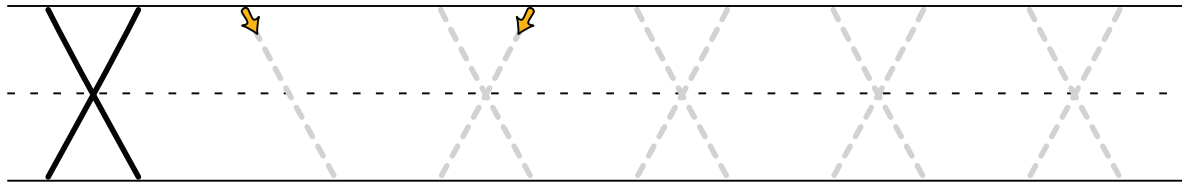
**Tip for parents:** Unlike the uppercase W, this letter has soft curves rather than sharp angles. Direct your child to make one curve and draw an identical curve next to the first without picking up the pencil.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter X:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



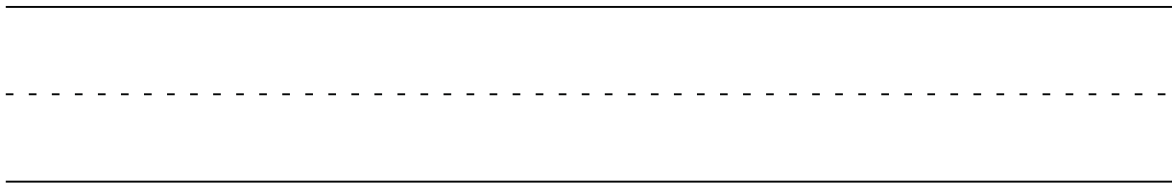
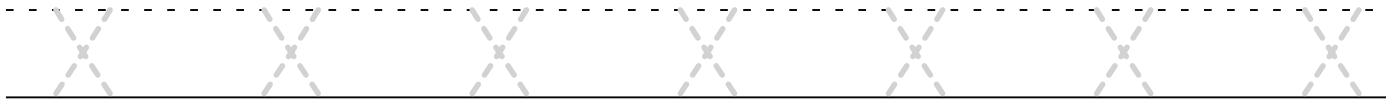
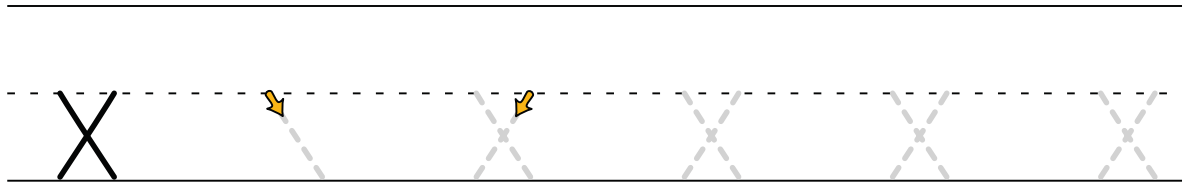
**Tip for parents:** The key to writing a perfect X is to make sure the two lines cross at their midpoints. Explain to your child how the second line should “cut the first line in half.”

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter x:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



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**Tip for parents:** Remind your child to watch closely as he draws the second line, ensuring the lines cross at their midpoints. Unlike an uppercase X that crosses on the dashed line, there is no "midpoint guide" for the lowercase x.

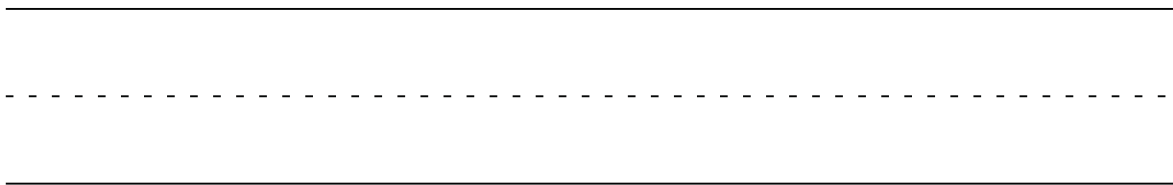
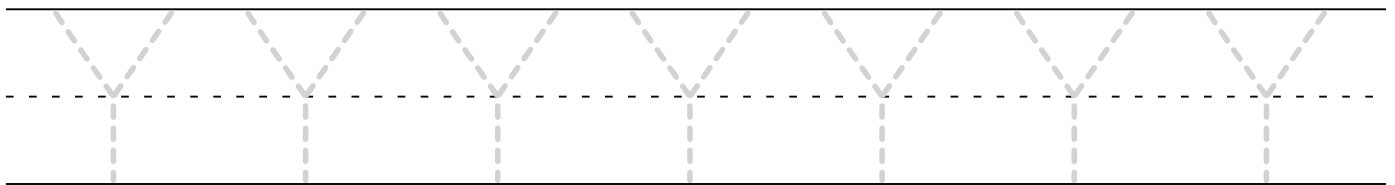
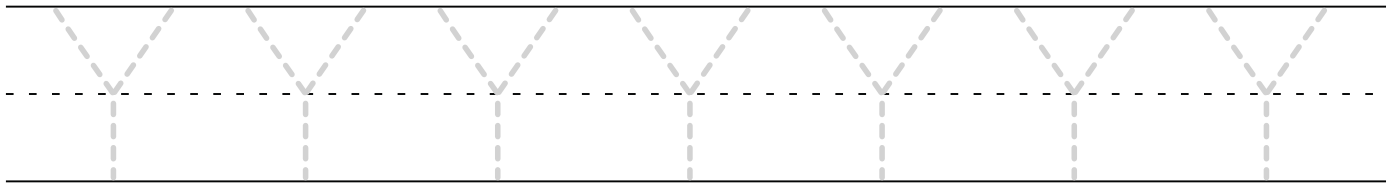
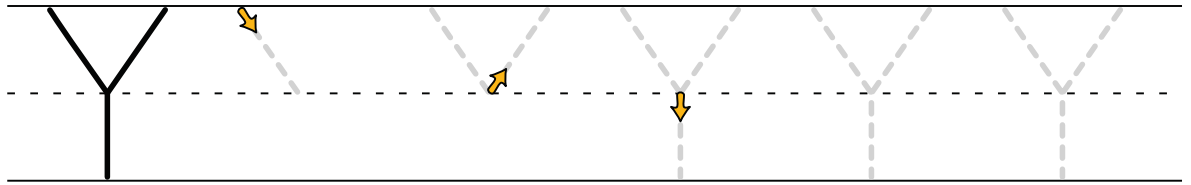
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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter Y:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



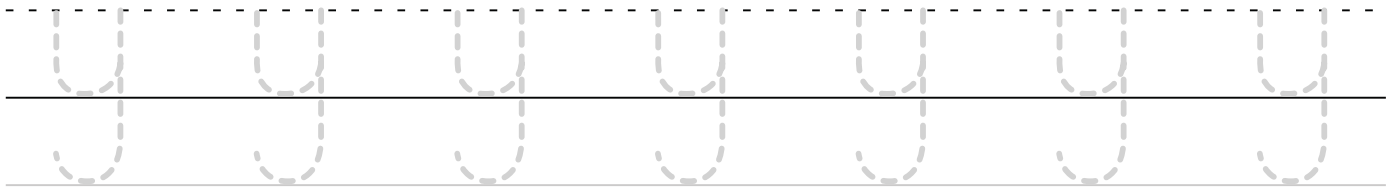
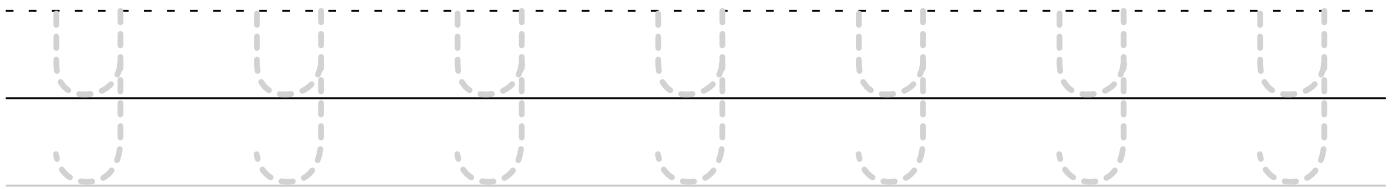
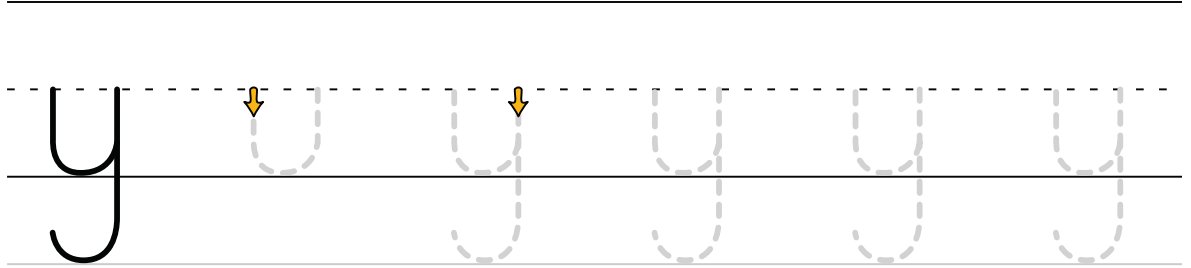
**Tip for parents:** Remind your child to start by drawing a lowercase v resting on the dotted middle line. Then direct him to pick up the pencil, rest it on the bottom of the v, and draw a straight line down to complete the letter.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter y:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



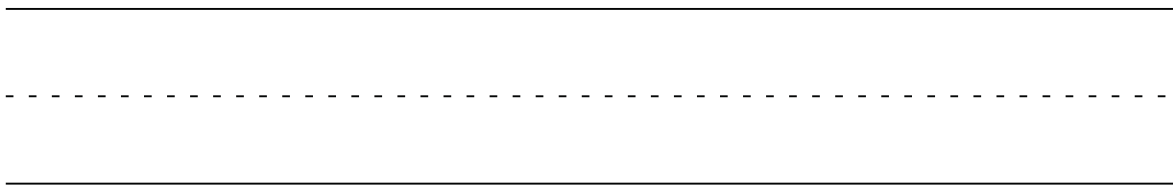
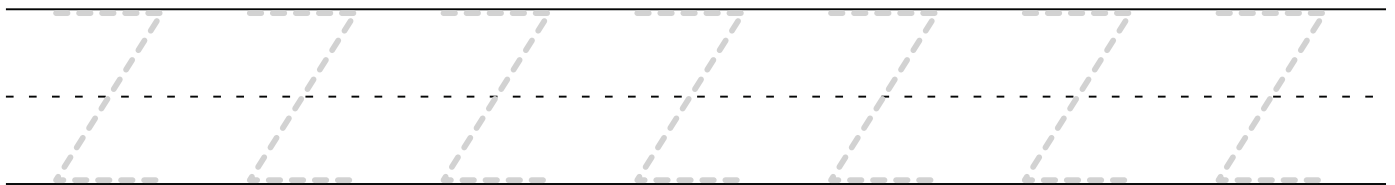
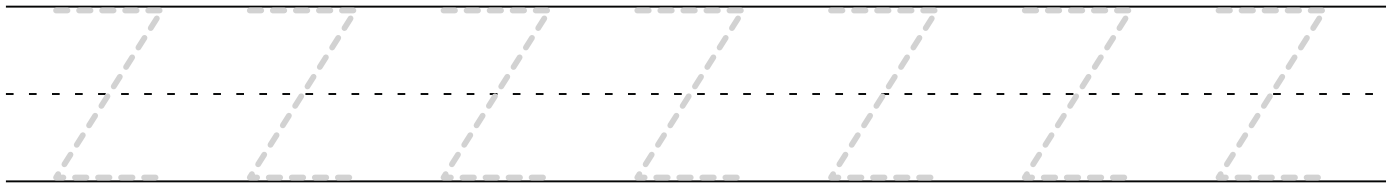
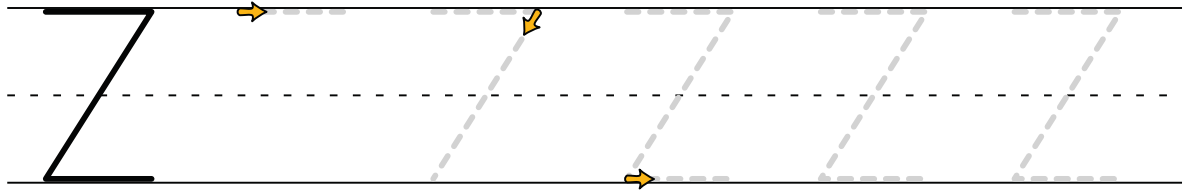
**Tip for parents:** Children love to think of this letter as a lowercase u with a tail! Direct your child to draw a lowercase u, but to continue the downward stroke below the line, hooking under the letter to complete the tail.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter Z:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



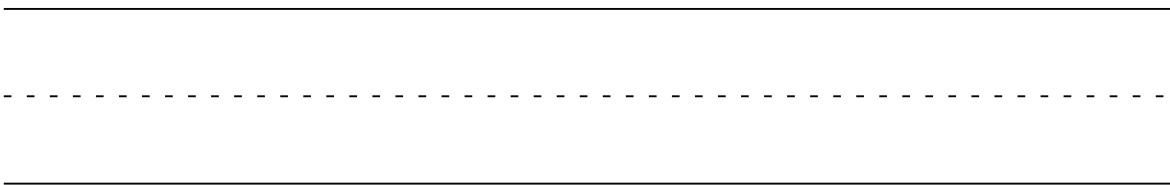
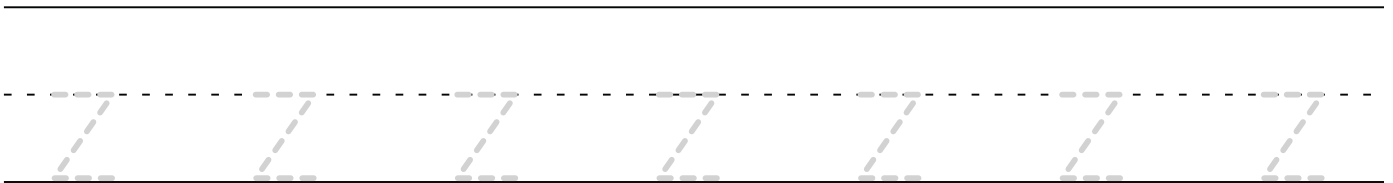
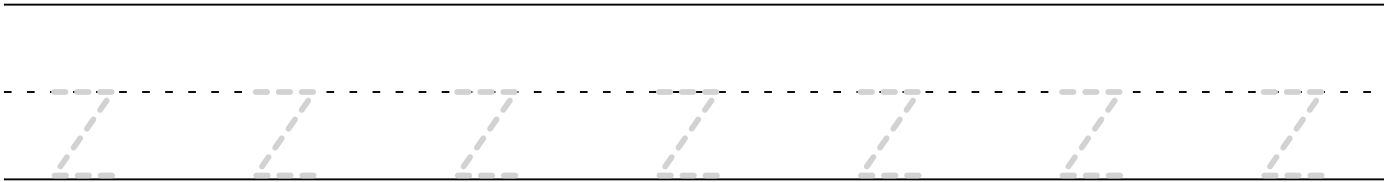
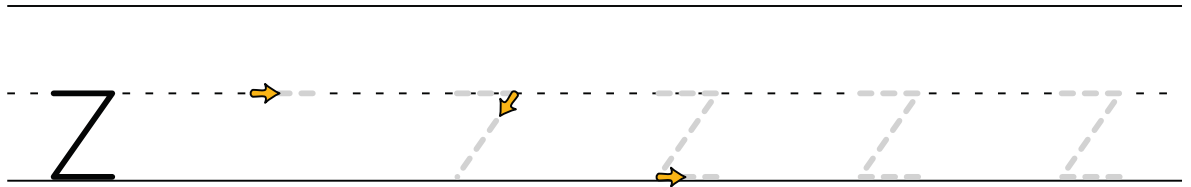
**Tip for parents:** This zig-zag letter requires three lines, but is made with one continuous stroke. Explain to your child that the first and third lines are totally flat, and that the second line goes diagonally down the page.

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# ALPHABET PARADE

**Tracing the letter z:** Direct your child to hold the pencil firmly between his thumb and index finger, resting it on his middle finger for support. The arrows indicate the proper and easiest construction of the letter.



SCHOOL SPARKS



**Tip for parents:** The key to a well-formed lowercase z is drawing sharp corners. As your child writes the letter, remind him to pause completely at the corners before changing direction and drawing the next line.

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