

Pencil Pinch Practice

Students use a functional pencil grasp while tracing and writing lowercase letters.

K.FFW.1.A "Use functional pencil grasp for letter formation."

NAME _____

DATE _____

Teacher: this page is run aloud. The script and answers are on the guide page.

1 TRACE IT _____

l

o

2 WRITE IT _____

HOW TO RUN THIS PAGE

Model a relaxed pencil hold with the pencil pinched between the thumb and pointer finger and resting on the middle finger. Watch as students trace and write, looking for a steady, comfortable grasp that lets the fingers guide the pencil.

Students never read directions on this sheet. Read each part's script aloud, then each prompt, giving think time before students mark.

PART 1 • TRACE IT

SAY “Can you hold your pencil with your thumb and pointer finger, with the pencil resting on your middle finger? Can you trace each gray letter?”

- Box 1: **lowercase l**
- Box 2: **lowercase o**

PART 2 • WRITE IT

SAY “Can you use your pencil pinch to write a lowercase m in the first box? Can you write a lowercase c in the next box?”

- Box 1: **lowercase m**
- Box 2: **lowercase c**

WHAT TO ACCEPT

Accept recognizable lowercase l, o, m, and c formed in the correct boxes. Observe for a functional grasp: thumb and pointer finger control the pencil, the pencil rests on the middle finger, and the student can make marks without an overly tight fist.