

MARYLAND STATE HANDWRITING STANDARDS
Information received from
Maryland State Department of Education
(www.mdk12.org/instruction/curriculum/reading/index.html)

Updated 2009

GRADE PK

Writing: Generate ideas by using letter-like shapes, symbols, and letters, dictating words and phrases, and using drawings to represent ideas.

Language: Comprehend basic punctuation and capitalization in written language

Objectives

- Recognize that names begin with a capital letter
- Recognize that space is used to separate words

GRADE K

Handwriting: Produce writing that is legible to the audience

Objectives

- Develop fine motor skills necessary to control and sustain handwriting
- Form upper case and lower case manuscript letters

GRADE 1

Handwriting: Produce writing that is legible to the audience

Objectives

- Form upper and lower case manuscript letters
- Control size and spacing of manuscript letters on appropriately lined paper
- Use manuscript in daily assignments to build accuracy and automaticity

GRADE 2

Handwriting: Produce writing that is legible to the audience

Objectives

- Form upper and lower case cursive letters
- Use manuscript in daily assignments to build accuracy and automaticity
- Use connecting strokes to write continuous text

GRADE 3

Handwriting: Produce writing that is legible to the audience

Objectives

- Use manuscript fluently when appropriate to the task
- Form upper and lower case letters using cursive writing
- Use connecting strokes to write continuous text for daily assignments
- Use cursive writing for independent assignments to build accuracy and automaticity

GRADE 4

Handwriting: Produce writing that is legible to the audience

Objectives

- Maintain accuracy and automaticity in manuscript and cursive writing

GRADE 5

Writing and Language: Apply standard English punctuation and capitalization in written language using correct punctuation including commas, quotation marks, apostrophes, colons

Handwriting: Produce writing that is legible to the audience

Objectives

- Write fluidly and legibly in manuscript and cursive