

# CONNECTION INSPECTION

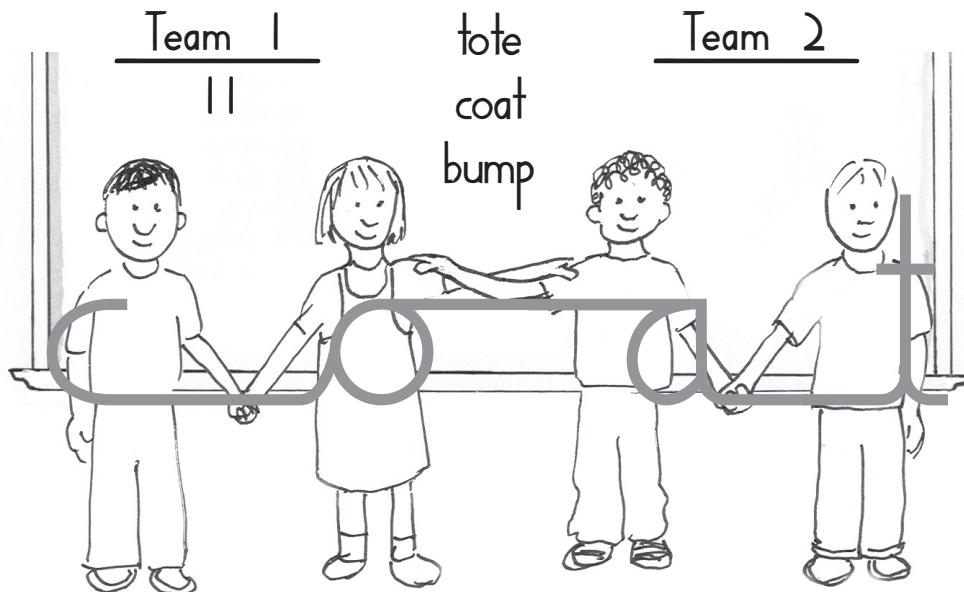
Bring cursive connections to life by turning children into words. They will be the letters; their arms the connections. For letters that end on the baseline, keep left hand down low. For letters that end up high (Tow Truck letters - *σ* *l* *v* *w*), put the left arm out. Explain to the next student (letter) that they have to start wherever the previous letter ends. Remember who's the boss of the connection—the first letter (see reminder below). If the hand is down, reach down. Arm up, put arm up. Play this unique activity in teams of four, and allow children to problem solve together in order to pass inspection!

## Preparation

1. Choose words to connect/inspect (See word lists on pages 69, 75, 80, 89, 94, 99 of this guide).
2. Write the words on the board.
  - Write them in cursive for an easy start.
  - Write them in print for a challenge.

## Directions

1. Divide your class into teams.
2. Choose one student (with the teacher's help) to be the inspector.
3. Write words on the board.
4. Have the teams solve the word problems. Connect them by becoming the letters/connections.
5. Wait for the inspection.



## A Reminder of Who's Boss

When teaching connections, it is best to use just two letters and explain how to connect them. Write the letters separately and then write them connected. Explain that the ending of the first letter (low or high) can never, ever change. Because the ending part of a cursive letter can't change, we like to say that the ending of the first letter is the boss of the connection. The second letter has to start where the first letter ended, even if that is not the spot where the second letter usually starts.



## Tips

- For more of a challenge, try longer words.
- Choose really long words, print them on the board, and see if your class can connect them.
- Give children time to solve the problem. If it is a printed word, model the cursive form for them.