Dear Parents,

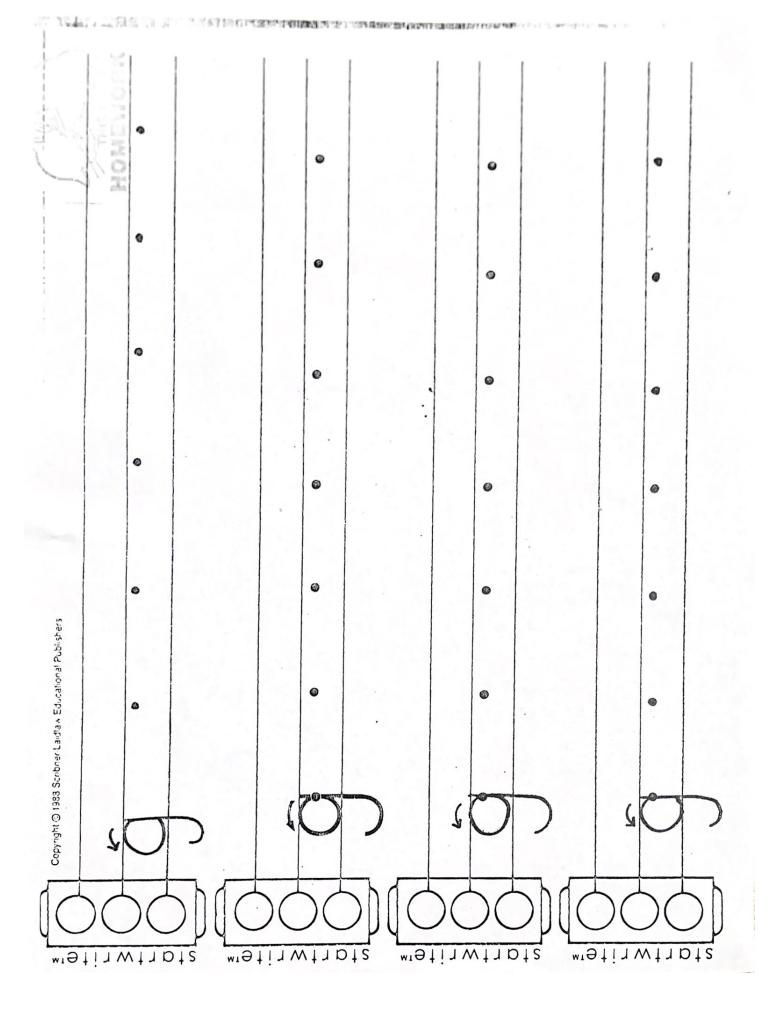
Gg Handwriting Review

Some children are writing these letters (capital and lowercase) incorrectly. It's important to monitor how they are forming the letters now before their own style becomes a habit that will be difficult for them to correct.

Letters must be written/formed a specific way from start to finish to ensure that when they begin to write in script and connect letters together, they can make that transition smoothly without having to "retrain" themselves.

The lines are there to guide them in the formation (and size) of their handwriting. I want them to learn the proper formation right away. I will continue to monitor them in school but I ask that you also pay attention to them when you see them write. Some children are writing their letters from the bottom, up. This is an important error to correct.

I realize that handwriting can be tedious/boring and some children would rather be doing anything else but they need to learn that expressing themselves in written form is a means of communication. Legible handwriting is important. Remember what I said at open house...."this is the starting gate where the race begins".



Dear Parents,

Your child is bringing home their shape classification project today.

In an effort to strengthen their listening skills and get them used to following oral directions, this project was reviewed carefully (repeatedly) to ensure that they understood the task. They were then given the tools they needed and told to work independently. As always, they were asked to follow our learning technique (listen, STOP, think and then do).

They children were told to use only four colors when coloring the shapes (red, blue, green and yellow). There were 4 shapes given to them in different sizes.

First they were told to color the shapes....one circle red, one circle blue, one circle green and one circle yellow. They same would apply to the square, rectangle and triangle. Each shape should have one of each color represented.

Then the children were asked to cut out ONE shape at a time and glue it into the section where they belonged. In an effort to stay organized and not lose pieces, it was repeated that they should cut out a shape and then glue it immediately before cutting out the next piece. Each big paper given to them differed slightly from the others at their table to ensure that they had to focus on their own work and not try to copy from a seatmate.

The end result should have been 4 shapes in each section (one red, one blue, one green and one yellow). Some children had difficulty cutting out the pieces. Others could not organize themselves or did not listen and cut out many shapes at once....sometimes losing them.

Look at your child's completed work. Are the pieces in the correct place? Did they lose pieces? Were they able to cut the shapes successfully? Do they have one color of each shape in every section?

Following directions and being able to organize their work area are important aspects of learning.

How did your child's completed project look?

Sincerely,

Ms. Giunta

