



Handwriting Medium Term Plan (RWI Stage 3)

Explain to children that there are two basic joins:

Join 1: the arm join (diagonal)

Join 2: the washing line join (horizontal)

The arm join has three variations:

- a. arm to boat
- b. arm to sun
- c. arm to sister.

Join 1

a. The arm to boat join (diagonal)

The arm join should not be too straight or too curly.

Phrase: ‘Sweep up your arm to touch... (say letter).’

Checklist

- ✓ write the first letter carefully
- ✓ make the curl gentle – not too round, not too spiky
- ✓ make the ‘arm’ sweep up in a gentle curve
- ✓ write the down stroke of the second letter very straight

Use for joining:

a c d e h i k l m n t u

to:

e i j m n p r u v w x y z

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1	<i>ai</i>	<i>ay</i>	<i>aw</i>	<i>cn</i>	<i>cu</i>
Week 2	<i>di</i>	<i>de</i>	<i>dr</i>	<i>ei</i>	<i>ep</i>
Week 3	<i>he</i>	<i>hi</i>	<i>hm</i>	<i>im</i>	<i>iv</i>
Week 4	<i>ke</i>	<i>ky</i>	<i>ku</i>	<i>li</i>	<i>lu</i>
Week 5	<i>mi</i>	<i>my</i>	<i>mp</i>	<i>ne</i>	<i>ny</i>
Week 6	<i>te</i>	<i>ti</i>	<i>tu</i>	<i>ue</i>	<i>uw</i>

b. The arm to sun join (diagonal)



The arm should meet the next letter just over halfway up. It should sweep smoothly into the sun letter.

Phrase: ‘Sweep up your arm to touch... (say letter) and shoot up to the top.’

Checklist

- ✓ write the first letter carefully
- ✓ make the join like an arm – not too straight, not too round
- ✓ continue the line up to the top of the next letter
- ✓ write the second letter carefully

Use for joining:

a e i d h k l m n t u c

to:

b h k l t

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 7	<i>ab</i>	<i>ah</i>	<i>ak</i>	<i>al</i>	<i>at</i>
Week 8	<i>eb</i>	<i>eb</i>	<i>eh</i>	<i>ek</i>	<i>el</i>
Week 9	<i>et</i>	<i>ib</i>	<i>ik</i>	<i>il</i>	<i>it</i>
Week 10	<i>al</i>	<i>ch</i>	<i>mb</i>	<i>th</i>	<i>da</i>

c. The arm to sister join (diagonal)

The arm should touch the sister letter’s forehead and then go to the back of the head as though resting a hand.



Phrase: ‘Sweep up your arm to touch... (say letter) and stroke the sister’s head.’

Checklist

- ✓ write the first letter carefully
- ✓ make the join like an arm – not too straight, not too round
- ✓ continue the arm join over the head of the ‘sister’ letter – as though a hand is stroking back her hair
- ✓ go back along the head
- ✓ write the second letter carefully

Use for joining:

a c d e h i k l m n t u

to:

a d g c o q

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 11	<i>ad</i>	<i>ag</i>	<i>ac</i>	<i>ca</i>	<i>co</i>
Week 12	<i>da</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>ea</i>	<i>eg</i>	<i>eq</i>
Week 13	<i>ic</i>	<i>la</i>	<i>ld</i>	<i>lo</i>	<i>ka</i>

Join 2

d. The washing line to boat join (horizontal)

The washing line should not be too droopy (the clothes get dirty) or too tight (the line breaks in the wind).

Phrase: ‘Not too droopy, not too tight.’



Checklist

- ✓ write the first letter carefully
- ✓ make the join like a washing line – not too droopy or too tight
- ✓ write the second letter carefully

Use for joining:

v w r f o **to:** **i j m n p r u v w x y z e**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 14	vi	vu	wi	wr	wy
Week 15	we	ri	rr	ry	re
Week 16	on	ov	ow	oy	oe

e. The washing line to sun join (horizontal)

The washing line should meet the next letter just over halfway up.
It should sweep smoothly into the tall letter.

Phrase: ‘Not too droopy, not too tight – and shoot up the next letter.’

Checklist

- ✓ write the first letter carefully



- ✓ make the join like a washing line – not too droopy or too tight
- ✓ continue the washing line up to the top of the next letter
- ✓ write the second letter carefully

Use for joining:

v w r f o **to:** **b h k l t**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 17	wh	wl	rb	rh	rl
Week 18	rt	ob	oh	ol	ot

f. The washing line to sister join (horizontal)

The washing line should touch the sister letter's forehead and then go to the back of the head – as though stroking back the sister's hair.

Phrase: 'Not too droopy, not too tight – and stroke the sister's head.'

Checklist

- ✓ write the first letter carefully
- ✓ make the join like a washing line – not too droopy or too tight



- ✓ stroke back the sister's hair
- ✓ write the second letter carefully

Use for joining:

v w r f o **to:** **a d g c o q**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 19	va	vo	wa	wo	ra
Week 20	ro	rd	rg	fa	fo
Week 21	oa	oo	od	og	oc

Depending on your school preferred style:

Week 22 Other joins to teach	bi	gi	ji	si	yi	pi
---------------------------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----