

Occupational Therapy

# Handwriting - Odd one out letters

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# Basic Hand Warm-Ups

Try and do each warm-up ten times.

If it's tricky to do one warm-up with both hands at the same time, then just do the warm-up activity one hand at a time.

1. Hands open and closed
2. Interlocking finger squeezes
3. Finger pulls
4. Finger taps on table
5. Finger taps on thumbs
6. Finger and thumb pulls and squeezes
7. Finger separations



# Odd one out letters

e

s

x

z



# Activity 1 - Writing the odd one out letters

- Practise each odd one out letter at least several times until you feel you can repeatedly do it correctly.
- Take your time with each and do not rush. It is more important to go slowly and carefully so your brain can learn to automatically do these correctly.
- For a challenge, when you can consistently do them correctly, write each as many times as you can in a given time limit. Try to do them the same size and neatness.
- You could have an adult call out each letter and then you have to quickly and correctly write it down.



# Odd one out letters

- **e** - This is a small letter which starts in the middle - then goes across and forms a 'c'
- **s** - This is a small letter that starts at the mid point and snakes down
- **x** - This is a small letter that is made by two crossing diagonal lines
- **z** - This is a small letter that starts at the mid point, goes across, diagonally down then across again.



# Activity 2 - Cursive practise

**Only try this if you are learning cursive writing or want a challenge:**

- Have a go practising each of these letters again, but this time start each letter from the baseline.
- This means you will have to draw up towards the start spot in the middle of the line before finishing off the letter.
- Different schools can do their joined up or cursive letters in different ways so ask your teacher to show you how your school does yours.



# Accommodations and alternatives

- To get familiar with the odd-one-out letters you could draw them in the air or in a surface like sand or shaving foam with your finger.
- Practising in as many different ways as possible will help you remember how to form each letter. This means writing in different positions, on different surfaces and with different writing tools.
- If it is really difficult to write along a line, practise on plain paper first.
- You can also use paper with bigger spaces between each line on the page to help fit your letters on.

