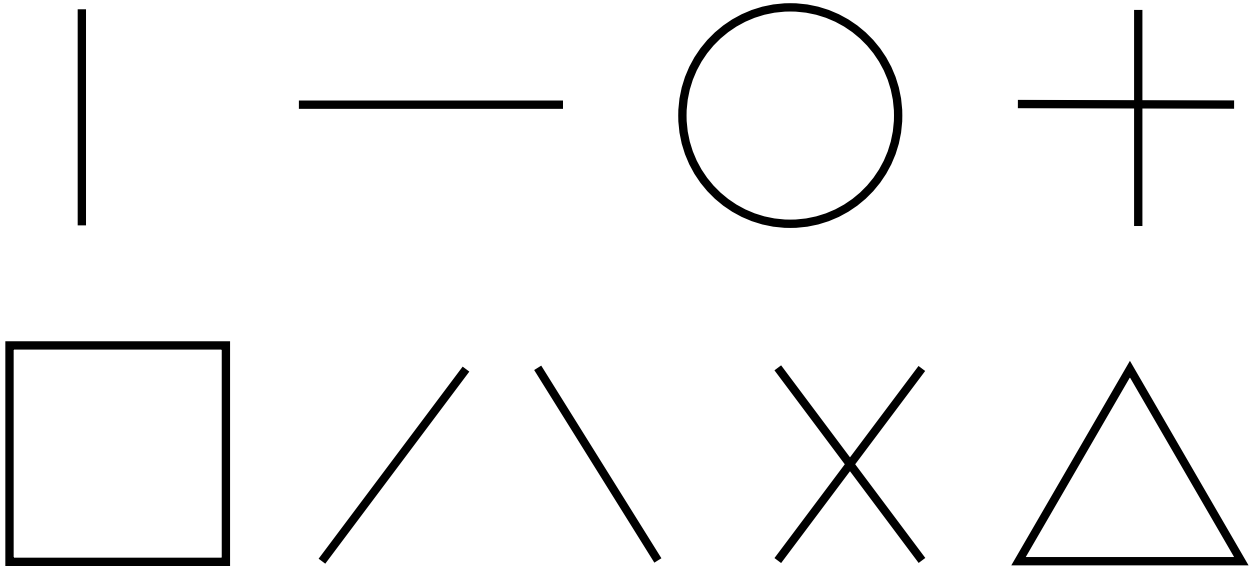


Pre-Handwriting Shapes



Dear Parents,

Before children are developmentally ready to form letters, they should be able to form all of the above shapes accurately and with control. Although your child may be able to form these already, please continue to practise them regularly (before completing any writing is a good time) to develop your child's fine motor skills. You can be creative in how you practise the shapes – you might draw them in the air, in paint or simply write them on lines. Start big and get smaller as your child begins to gain more control.

What is most important is to ensure that children are forming the shapes in the correct direction ([see below](#)). This will support them with correct letter formation ready for joining.

Vertical Line- top to bottom

Horizontal line- left to right

Circle- start at the top and go anticlockwise

Cross- top to bottom then left to right

Square- start at the top left corner and go anticlockwise

Forward diagonal- top right to bottom left

Backwards diagonal- top left to bottom right

X- top right to bottom left then top left to bottom right

Triangle- start at top and go anticlockwise