

# About This Course

The images, artwork, and words used in this course are all designed to connect children to the good and the beautiful: family, faith, high moral character, and the wonders and beauty of nature and human life.

*Doodles & Pre-writing for Littles* is designed for most children between the ages of 2 ½ and 5 years old who are ready to develop the dexterity and coordination of small muscles as well as the mental focus needed to write.

## COURSE ORGANIZATION

This level focuses on the strokes and forms used to create letters and common shapes and is designed to help small children develop the fine motor skills necessary for writing. This workbook includes 100 sheets, which is 3–4 sheets per week for a normal school year. The course is divided into three sections:

1. Skill: continuous motions. Forms: curves, loops, waves, and spirals. Shapes: circle, oval, ellipse, quatrefoil, and curved triangle.
2. Skill: changing directions. Forms: straight lines, angles, and zigzags. Shapes: triangle, square, rhombus, parallelogram, trapezoid, pentagon, and hexagon.
3. Skill: combining different forms and shapes from sections one and two to create letters or more complex shapes, such as hearts and stars, and finding shapes in nature.

## COLORING AND NATURE

Each sheet in this course provides an opportunity for the child to color, improving both coloring and motor skills. The doodles, forms, and shapes the child practices are all connected to nature or other common objects in a child's world.

## PENCIL GRIP

Correct pencil grip is essential. For help with pencil grip, there are several YouTube videos and websites that display correct pencil grip. Be sure to gently and patiently correct the child's incorrect pencil grip when writing or drawing.

## DOING HANDWRITING WITH LITTLES

The course is designed to be simple enough that a child could work on it without assistance. However, there are optional extension activities, such as questions about the objects on the page, that can be done if parents would like to work further with the child. Some children will want to spend a lot of time on each page, while others will fly through. To help the child get more use and skill development from this course, encourage him or her to trace over each shape or form twice. Using a variety of

colors and mediums (such as crayons, colored pencils, or markers) will make this more enjoyable. After the child has completed the whole course, you can allow the child to cut along the dotted lines to practice using scissors. Pages with large patterns will work best. Upon completion some children will be ready to move on to the Level K Handwriting course, while others may benefit from repeating this course.

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