

Strategies for Handwriting Problem #1: *Reversals*

<i>Readiness</i>	<i>Skill Building</i>	<i>Function</i>
<p>Body Awareness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♣ pushing, pulling, jumping, crawling, climbing, rolling <p>Body Scheme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♣ dress-up, bath time, grooming <p>Spatial Relationships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♣ hide-outs, obstacle courses ♣ doll house, toy cars <p>Language Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♣ phonemic awareness ♣ sound-symbol relationships ♣ words for body parts ♣ words for spatial relationships <p>Manipulatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♣ sorting, matching letters ♣ "build" designs and shapes... ♣ student "rebuilds" <p>Pre-Writing Strokes via Drawing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♣ top-to-bottom and left-to-right ♣ counter-clockwise circles ♣ diagonals ♣ basic shapes <p>Consistent Instruction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♣ guided repetition ♣ special attention to left-handers ♣ varied sensory input 	<p>Create a "frame of reference"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♣ tape a rectangle on board ♣ tape lines on board ♣ HWT Grey Blocks <p>Teach letter formation inside the frame</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♣ identify spatial landmarks ♣ teach starting points ♣ teach letters in groups <p>Demonstrate correct letter formation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♣ verbalize spatial concepts ♣ pair letter formation with phoneme <p>Watch students imitate letter formation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♣ practice at the board first ♣ correct errors before giving writing paper ♣ repeat for motor memory ♣ insist on "writing out-loud" ♣ student copies letter on paper ♣ monitor for correct formation <p>Present letters by oral dictation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♣ pronounce phoneme ♣ student writes letter from memory ♣ repeat commonly reversed letters: b, d, s, z, p, g, j, f ♣ monitor for correct formation ♣ always teach q and u together <p>Focused instruction for left-handers</p> <p>What about the transition to cursive?</p>	<p>Give opportunities to practice writing commonly used words</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♣ reinforce "writing out loud" ♣ reinforce sight words ♣ Dolch phrases ♣ repetition for mastery <p>Consider keyboarding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♣ emphasize "typing out loud" ♣ teach spell check ♣ use AutoCorrect Options <p>For high school, consider reintroducing upper case block print as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♣ Engineering Graphics or ♣ Architectural Lettering <p>Don't forget about numerals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♣ try the Phone Number game ♣ practice application forms <p>0 0 0 0 0 0 0</p> <p>0 0 0 0 0 0 0</p>