



Small Groups: Sand Tray Writing Independent

Standards:

ELA.W.PD.PS.1

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Materials:

- trays/shoe box lids
- children's name cards and/or letter cards
- fine sand, glitter, or salt

Vocabulary:

- **line:** a long, narrow mark
- **curve:** a smooth, rounded line
 - horizontal
 - vertical

Preparation: Fill trays with sand, glitter, or salt. Set out name cards and/or letter cards

Procedure:

Children can practice letter/name writing in the sand. Show children how to gently shake trays back and forth to erase the marks they made.

As an alternative, children could write their names and letters on small white boards.

Guiding Questions:

- What kinds of lines, i.e., straight, curved, short, etc., are in your name?
- How many letters are in your name?
- How is your name the same as or different from your friend's name?

