Warm-Up: Joining Strokes

Name _____ **Date** _____

Start at the green dot and trace each row without lifting your pencil.

Undercurve joins
swing up, over, down



Hump joins
up, over and down



Loop joins
loop to the top



Little loop joins
up, loop, down



Bridge joins
round, then across



Round joins
round, up, down



Tall hump joins
loop, then a hump



Point joins
down, up, across



Handwriting checklist for kids

- Sit tall with both feet flat on the floor and slant the paper a little.
- Hold the pencil lightly with your thumb and two fingers (a tripod grip).
- In cursive the pencil stays on the paper to join the letters of a word.
- Dot the i and cross the t after you finish the word, not while writing it.

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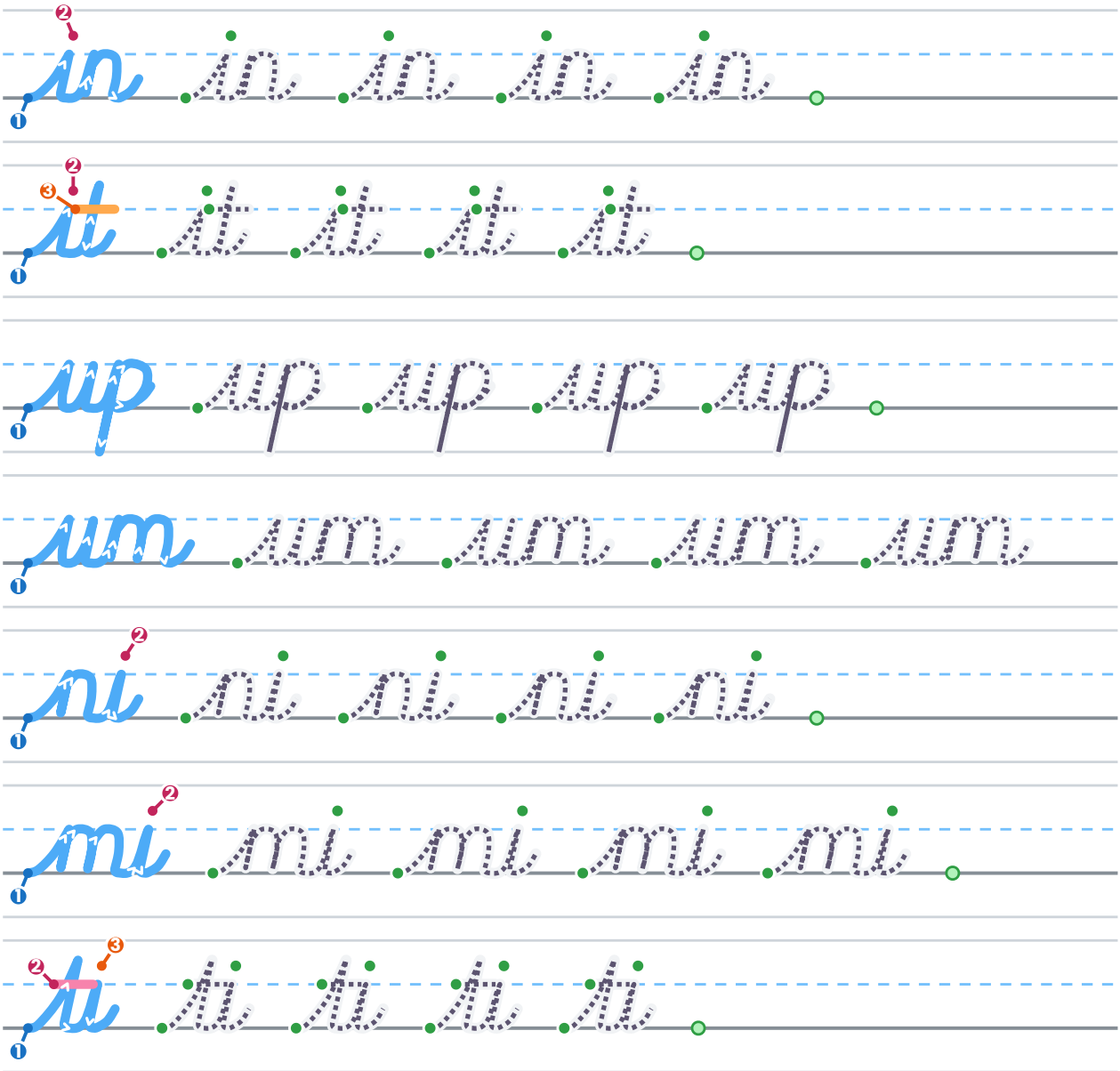
Joining to Stem Letters

Name _____ **Date** _____

Start at the green dot and follow the arrows. Trace, then write.



Tip for parents and teachers

Finish the first letter at the bottom line, then swing up into the next stem without lifting. Dot the i and cross the t last. Say the letters as you write: i-n, i-t, u-p.

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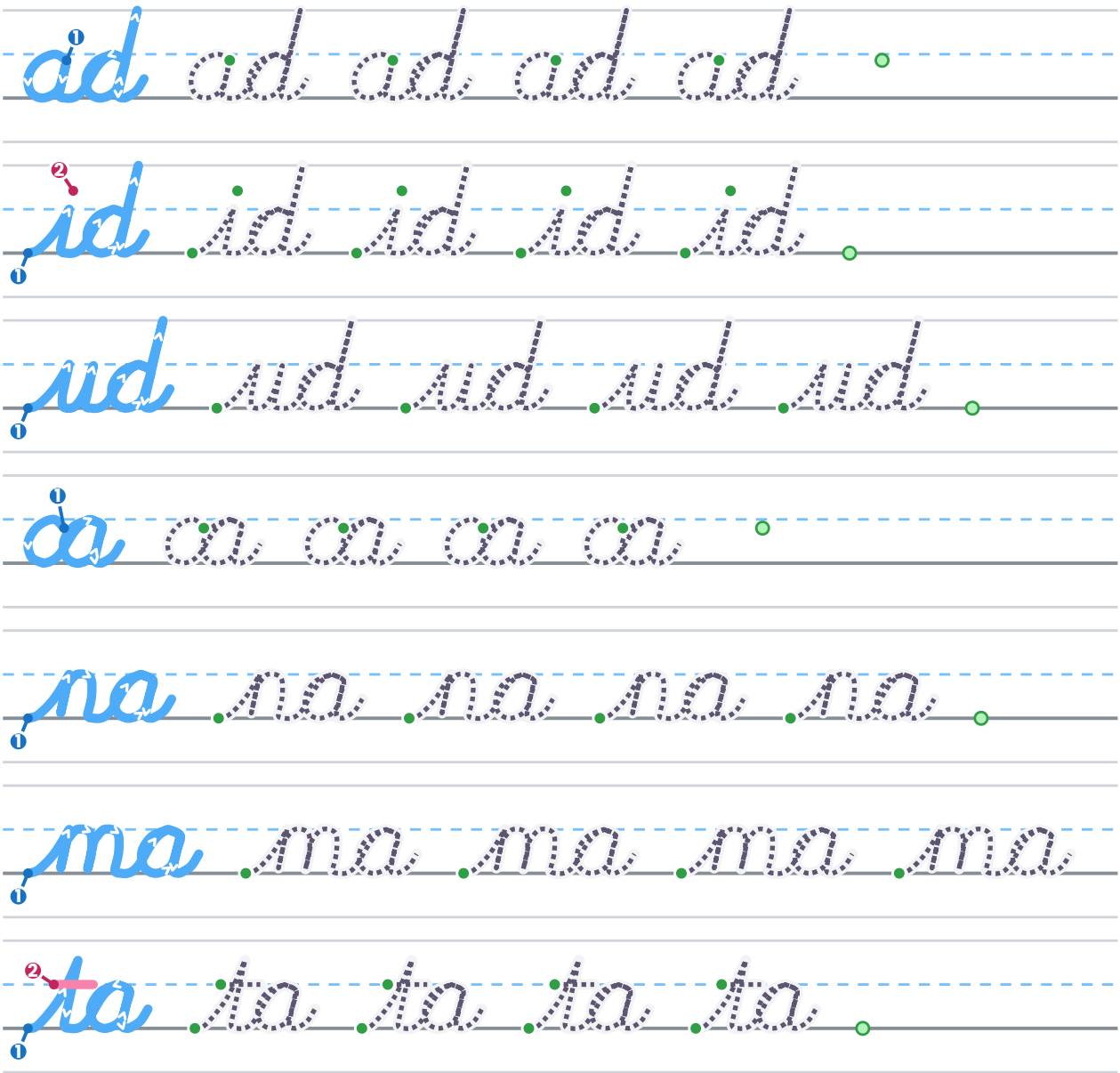
Joining to Round Letters

Name _____ **Date** _____

Start at the green dot and follow the arrows. Trace, then write.



Tip for parents and teachers

Swing up to the top of the second letter, then turn left and go all the way round. Do not lift the pencil: the join is part of the same line, so slow down at the top.

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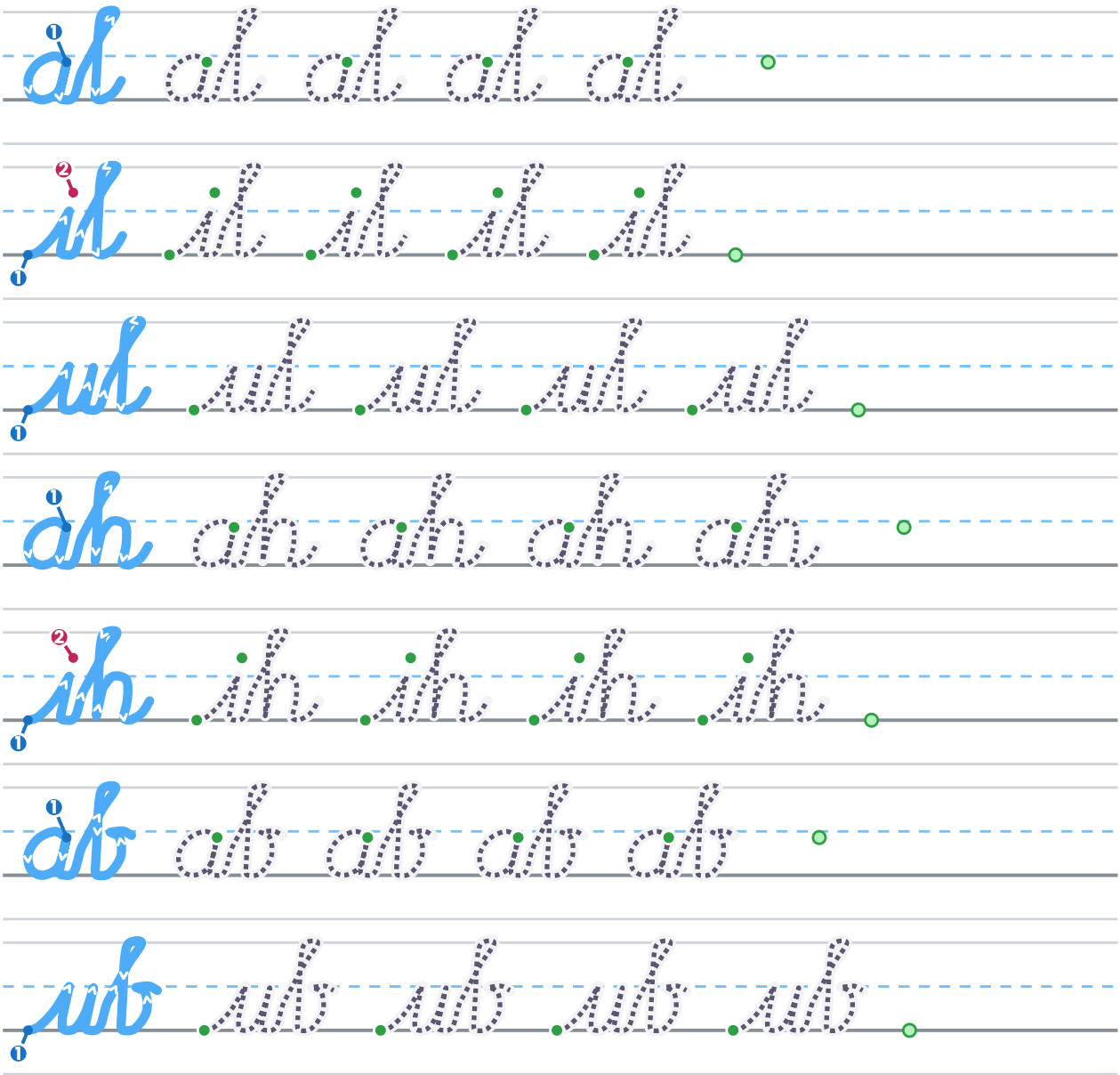
Joining to Loop Letters

Name _____ **Date** _____

Start at the green dot and follow the arrows. Trace, then write.



Tip for parents and teachers

After the first letter, swing up in one smooth line and loop to the top line.
Keep the loop narrow like a leaf and bring the downstroke back to the bottom line.

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Bridge Joins: o, v, w, b

Name _____ **Date** _____

Start at the green dot and follow the arrows. Trace, then write.



Tip for parents and teachers

o, v, w and b end at the dashed middle line. Join straight across to the next letter. Do not dip down to the bottom line first. Keep the bridge level and smooth.

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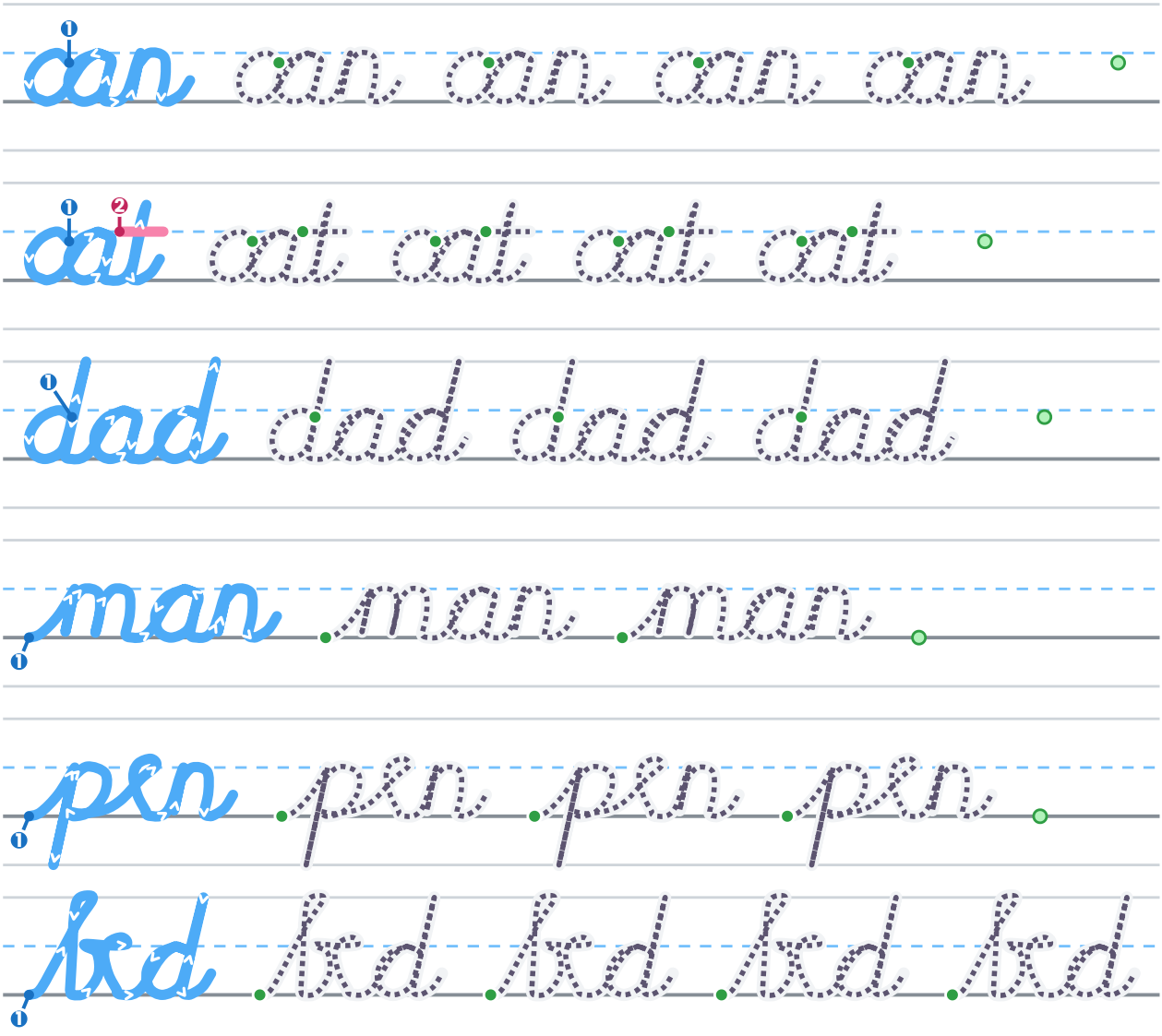
Short Words (3 Letters)

Name _____ **Date** _____

Start at the green dot and follow the arrows. Trace, then write.



Tip for parents and teachers

Write each word in one flowing line. Check that every letter touches the next one. Go back and dot or cross when the word is finished. Read each word out loud.

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Longer Words (4-5 Letters)

Name _____ **Date** _____

Start at the green dot and follow the arrows. Trace, then write.



Tip for parents and teachers

Take a breath at each join. Letters that sit on the line (m, o, n) stay small and even. j, p and y dip below the bottom line. l, k and d reach up to the top line.

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Days of the Week

Name _____ **Date** _____

Start at the green dot and follow the arrows. Trace, then write.



Tip for parents and teachers

Each day starts with a capital letter. Lift your pencil after it, then join the small letters. Say the days in order, Monday to Sunday, as you write them.

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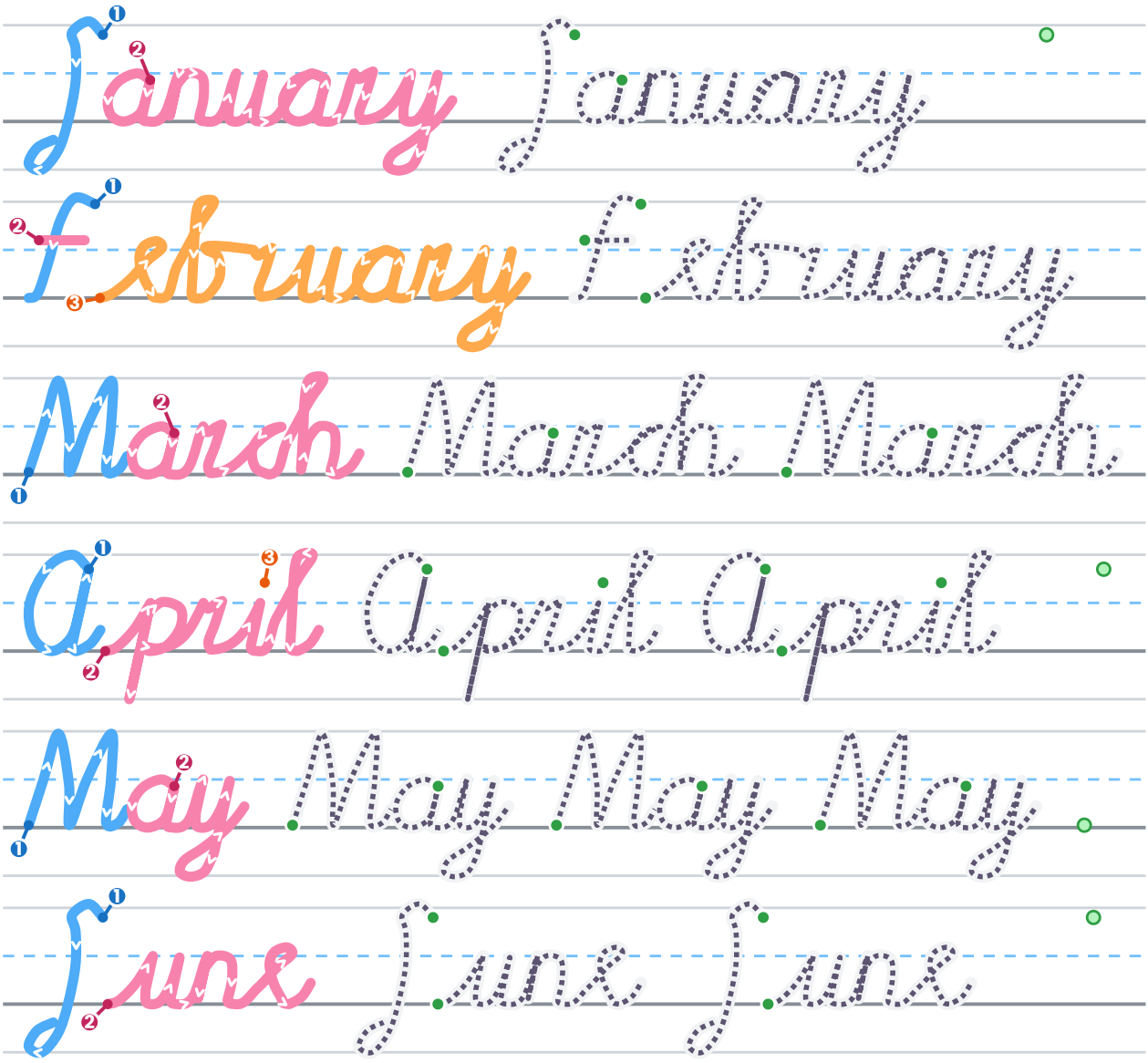
Months: January to June

Name _____ **Date** _____

Start at the green dot and follow the arrows. Trace, then write.



Tip for parents and teachers

Capital first, then join the small letters. Longer words like February need patience. Say the months in order. Check each word after you write it: are all the letters joined?

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Months: July to December

Name _____ **Date** _____

Start at the green dot and follow the arrows. Trace, then write.



Tip for parents and teachers

Capital first, then join the small letters. Say the month names as you write.
September, November and December are long: write slowly and keep the letters even.

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Match Cursive and Print

Name _____ **Date** _____

Draw a line from each cursive word to the same word in print.

can	o	o	duck
cat	o	o	dad
dad	o	o	play
man	o	o	can
pen	o	o	moon
moon	o	o	pen
duck	o	o	cat
play	o	o	man

Tip for parents and teachers
Read the cursive word out loud, then find the same word in print. Cursive words look different from printed ones, but the letters are the same. Say each letter as you go.

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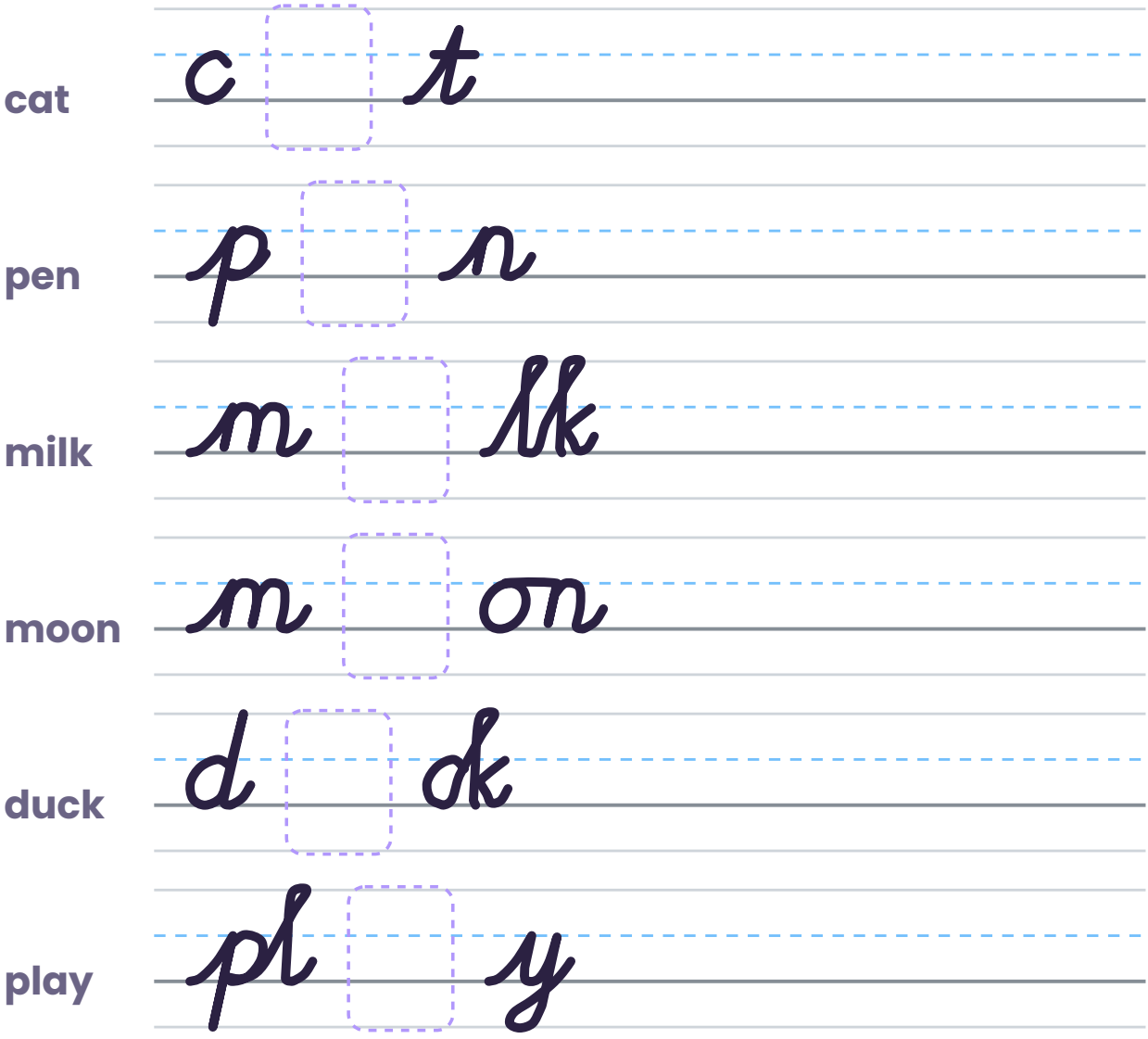
Missing Vowels

Name _____ **Date** _____

Read the printed word. Write the missing vowel in the empty box.



Tip for parents and teachers
Read the printed word, then write the missing vowel in the empty box.
The five vowels are a, e, i, o and u. Say the word again to check it.

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