

**Title:** Letter School – Learn to Write

**Version:** 1.5.6

**Publisher:** Letter School Enabling Learning B.V

**Target Audience:** This app is age appropriate for a preschool to 1<sup>st</sup> grade level. The publisher states the target audience as 4+ but I would not find this app appropriate or useful for children over the age of 7 because by that age, students already know how to write the letters of the alphabet.

**Curriculum:** This app would be utilized in handwriting exercises. It can also be useful to build fine motor skills. The Letter School app works in a three-step process that allows children to trace from points of letters, then trace the letter, and eventually they write the letter without any assistance from the app.

**Possible Environments:** Students could use this app in the regular classroom or at home to practice. Teachers could incorporate this app into daily curriculum as a form of assessment.

**Cost:** The app does offer a free download. The free download does not include all letters and would be mildly beneficial to the students. The full version is \$2.99 and offers all upper and lowercase letters for students. The full version can also be used for up to three different students. Once the full version is purchased, there are no further in-app purchases.

Letter School- Learn to Write is an app that introduces handwriting skills to students. The app incorporates highly engaging animation and sounds to excite children and promote learning. This app is intended for children who can already recognize the letters of the alphabet. The app does however pair each letter with an object to reinforce letter recognition. The app works in a three-point process that scaffolds student's learning. First, the app guides students to first tap on the starting points of each letter. Next, the app guides students through tracing each letter. Lastly, the app asks students to properly write each letter without hints. If a child struggles, the app will give suggestions throughout the learning process. The app can be adjusted to show only uppercase letters, only lowercase letter, or both.

As a future educator, I can see Letter School being a highly beneficial tool for my students and myself. First, the navigation of the app was very simple. I believe students could navigate themselves with ease. This would be excellent for a classroom setting because teachers will not have the time to individually set up each student every time technology is used. Second, the app is highly interactive. This will be great for the targeted age level. Students would need to use headphones as to not distract other students, but that is a small accommodation that could be easily met. The only issue that I see with the app is the cost. As mentioned above, the free version would not be sufficient for classroom use. The app cost is not great, but it may be tricky to ask parents to pay for the app. Teachers would have to purchase the app on their own. The last benefit I found in this app is that students could download the app on their device at home and practice their letters. Although I would not assign this app as homework because we cannot insure every student have digital access, I strongly believe students that do have access would love to explore and learn on this app.