

Earn University Credits: Create Meaningful Kindergarten Practicum Projects

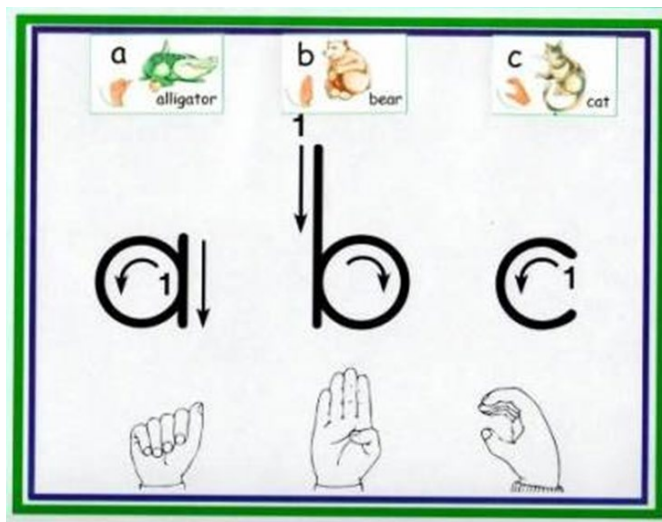
Dramatically Accelerate Kindergarten Writing Proficiency: Workshop #1 Distance Learning

6-Hour (456 slides) MasterClass Intensive from Nellie Edge

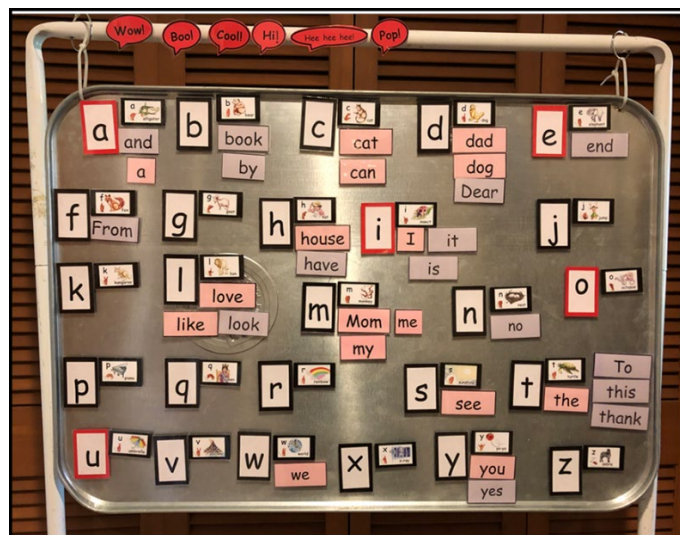
University of the Pacific course #9157: Multisensory Kindergarten Model Practicum



Create Favorite Class Books: Add quotes from "What is Your Research Base?"



Learn to fingerspell and create multisensory learning resources.



Make a moveable word wall with ABC Phonics props and "heart words."



Prepare a class set of kid-friendly white-erase boards: the essential tool!

This comprehensive step-by-step guide will facilitate the registration and practicum process for 1-3 university credits

For Self-Reflection: Your 6-Hour MasterClass Intensive Power Guide incorporates components of all 10 of the following Best Kindergarten Writing Practices with a focus on the foundation strategies #1-4. Read these strategies and peruse the online photo essays of each. Reflect on which of the strategies you would most like to enhance in your own classroom.

10 Best Practices for Growing Young Writers: Action Research

Give students a comprehensive writing program that honors diverse learners!

What are the proven high-impact writing practices that accelerate writing development? How do we differentiate instruction to simultaneously challenge and support diverse learners within the same kindergarten? How do we teach more intentionally, systematically, and create joyful pathways to rigorous state writing standards? **Authentic, meaning-centered literacy is the answer!** [See more.](#)

- Strategy 1 **Bond with Children, and Create a Joyful Oral Language Community, Rich in Songs, Poetry, Sign Language, and Celebrations.** Use collaborative experiences in the arts and deep connections with nature to engage the child in reading, writing, thinking, speaking, listening, and creating. Peruse the [Celebration](#) page at [NellieEdge.com](#).
- Strategy 2 **Use Multisensory [ABC and Phonics Immersion](#)** with American Sign Language and Parents as Partners: Systematically develop Phonemic Awareness and 3 Levels of ABC Phonics Mastery!
- Strategy 3 **Begin Kindergarten-Friendly [Handwriting](#) with Student Names and "Heart Words."** Teach basic handwriting motions through memorable songs, chants, dances, and movement. Good handwriting with "heart word" sentences simultaneously builds fluency and stamina for Writing Workshop.
- Strategy 4 **Teach for Student Mastery of High-Frequency ["Heart Words"](#) and Phonetically Spelled Words.** Sing, sign, spell, and write real words—systematically, playfully, and with great intention. Choose joyful, multisensory teaching and learning to build the writing brain!
- Strategy 5 **Create a Culture of Engaged and Purposeful Writers** with "Kid Writing" workshop and authentic writing experiences across the curriculum. Provide expert and intensive writing lessons. Use anchor charts and graphic organizers to inform narrative, information, and opinion writing. Nurture a growth mindset with your responsive feedback.
- Strategy 6 **Use Independent Writing and Drawing Centers as Invitations** for children to practice their craft in an authentic context and develop writing stamina and motivation. Write lists, messages, news stories, and make books. Provide meaningful word work that motivates young learners.
- "We can choose to spoon-feed our children or we can teach them to be independent, self-regulated learners." - Nellie Edge*
- Strategy 7 **Build Oral Language Fluency with Well-loved Song Picture Books, Quality Fiction, Nonfiction, and "I Can Read" (Song and Poetry) Notebooks.** Create a culture of book lovers and develop voracious vocabulary learning habits. Involve children in book clubs, science exploration, and family research projects. Integrate Next Generation Science Standards.
- Strategy 8 **Publish Children's Books and Celebrate Young Authors in Simple and Delightful Ways!** Invite children to write, illustrate, revise, edit and publish their own books. Discover the powerful affirmation through word and song, 🎵"Prolific Writers Are We!"
- Strategy 9 **Use Ongoing Authentic Assessment** culminating in student-led parent conferences. Be systematic and intentional. End the year with simple and memorable celebrations of learning!
- Strategy 10 **Involve Parents as Partners** to nurture a love of writing and drawing, and to reinforce foundational literacy skills through authentic writing activities at home. Meaningful family literacy multiplies our teaching effectiveness.



Nellie Edge Kindergarten Writing Workshop #1

University Credit Option – PEDU 9157: Multisensory Kindergarten Model Practicum

Sample Time Log for Professional Development Credit Suggestions

Each practicum project may take 2-5 hours (or more) depending on what you include.

Date	Objective:	Hours (example)
	Had MasterClass Intensive Book printed and bound. Studied MasterClass Distance Learning, Research Base and Self-Assessment	10
	Created Favorite Class Books: <i>All About Teacher</i> and <i>Mary Wore Her Red Dress</i>	5
	Studied ASL Video: Learned to sing and sign <i>The More We Get Together</i> . Downloaded resources, connected to print.	2
	Developed resources for Family Scavenger Hunt	
	Studied ASL Video: Learned to accurately fingerspell a-z	
	Created Name Ticket with fingerspelling cards for Helper of the Day Strategy	
	Made ABC Playdough Mats with Handwriting Guides and Fingerspelling	
	Printed and organized handwriting lessons, laminated props, made a-z word work books, edited parent letters	
	Created a “We Love Lists” Independent Writing Center	
	Presented lessons for small (or large) group: How to Draw 3 Kinds of Stars	
	Created a portable word wall of high-frequency “heart words”	
	Presented “King of ing” lesson, made poster, crowns and “I Can Read” page	
	Created set of exclamation word speech bubbles for word wall	
	Made “Master of the Alphabet” cape and abc fluency chart	
	Created “heart word” props and posters for 64 words	
	Purchased boxes and prepared 25 sets of family pink “heart words”	
	Studied video and learned “the” and “the end” spelling/fingerspelling chants	
	Created Stamp and Read Skinny Book Center and made 50 skinny books	
	Made 25 white-erase boards, rounded corners, added ring, black socks, and pens	
	Studied video clips and learned <i>Silent E-man</i> song. Made props	
	Photocopied/took photos of Writing Workshop #1 projects, organized and mailed practicum projects to University of the Pacific	
	Total hours of involvement: 15 hours per credit (45 hours = 3 credits)	

Create a Class Book: All About Teacher Children and Families Want to Know Who You Are!

A Favorite Class Book: All About Mrs. Vignery

The beginning of kindergarten is all about getting to know each other, building community, learning to care about our friends, and to take care of our classroom.

<p>All About</p>  <p>Mrs. Vignery</p>	<p>This is my family.</p> 	<p>This is my cat.</p>  <p>Blue</p> <p>This is my cat too.</p>  <p>Boots</p>	<p>This is my friend.</p> 
<p>This is my house.</p>  <p>I love the tree!</p>	<p>I love the beach!</p> 	<p>I love football!</p>  <p>Go Beavers!</p>	<p>I love the pumpkin patch!</p>  <p>So does Evan!</p>

10

Children Read This Book Over and Over Again

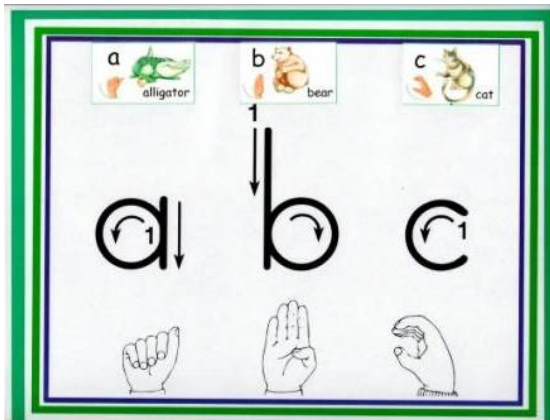
<p>All About</p>  <p>Mrs. Nelson!</p>	 <p>Esta es mi familia.</p> <p>This is my family.</p>
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Consider creating a book in English and Spanish as a professional development practicum project. Make 2 copies; send one home!
Commit to taking this workshop for PDUs!

Students LOVE ABC Playdough Mats: FREE on TPT

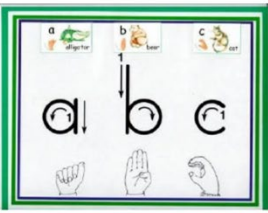
Download the Resources. Mount and Laminate: Consider making multiple sets for use in classroom, to send home with families, and for Response-To-Intervention work.

Add Key Phonics Symbol to Playdough Mats



FREE ABC Playdough Mats with Handwriting Arrows and Fingerspelling are available at [Nellie Edge TPT Store](http://NellieEdge.com).

Add images from the [ABC Phonics Family Reference Chart](http://NellieEdge.com).



**Play Dough Mats:
abc Fingerspelling
I (Independence) Chart**

My Responsibilities

I will:

- Keep the play dough on the abc mat and on the table.
- **First**, trace the letters with my pointer finger and say the letter name and sound.
- **Next**, fingerspell each letter accurately.



Independence Chart and Playdough Recipe are included in this free download.

Use *ABC Playdough Mats* to Reinforce Handwriting, Letter Recognition, and Fingerspelling. Children first trace the letters with their pointer finger.

Create a Playdough Tote. Use the I (Independence) Chart

Create a Moveable Word Wall on a Magnetic Oil Pan

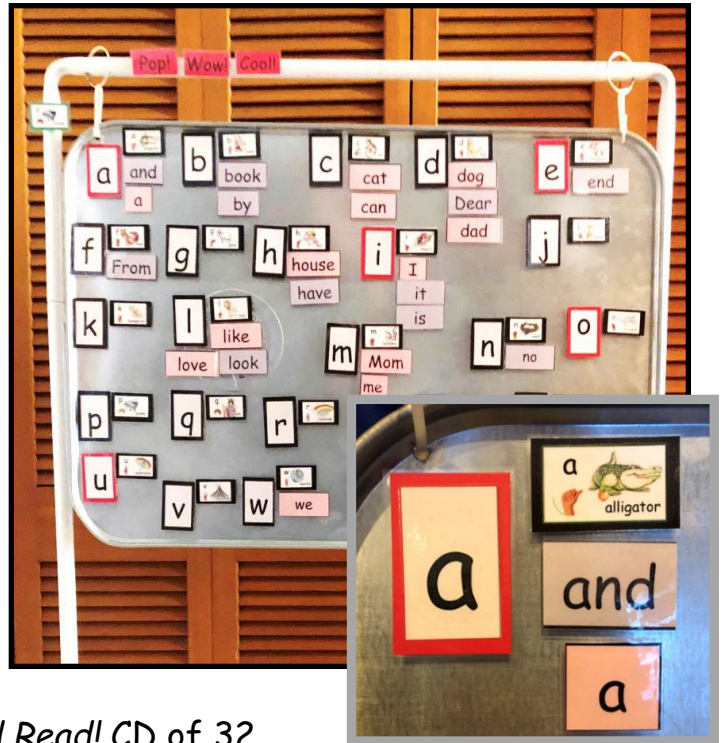
I hang mine from a portable clothes rack or pocket chart stand using binder rings and zip ties

Attach magnets to ABC Phonics symbols and heart words

Is **wall space limited** in your classroom? Create a moveable word wall using the first 2 sets (pink and purple) of high-frequency kindergarten "heart words." You can find large magnetic steel drip trays in automotive stores (25"x36"). Drill two small holes in the corners for the zip ties.

Hold all children accountable to spell "heart words" that have been introduced and practiced with multisensory sing, sign, spell, read and write strategies.

- If a child does not remember how to spell a word, he or she is **expected to take it off the word wall** and bring it to their table and copy it conventionally (We call this adult spelling or book spelling).
- Children learn to **use the environment as a resource** to help them remember how to write "heart words."
- **Only** add words to the word wall **after** they have been introduced. Let children **see** you add the word to the word wall. Demonstrate how to find new words on the word wall. Use the *Sing, Sign, Spell, and Read!* CD of 32 high-frequency word songs for practice and review. (Find it under Store on <https://nellieedge.com/>) You may make multiple copies for families.



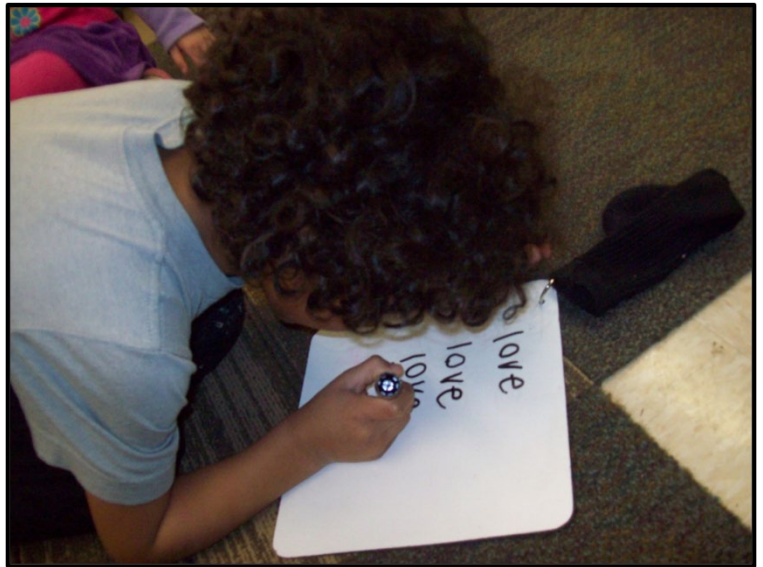
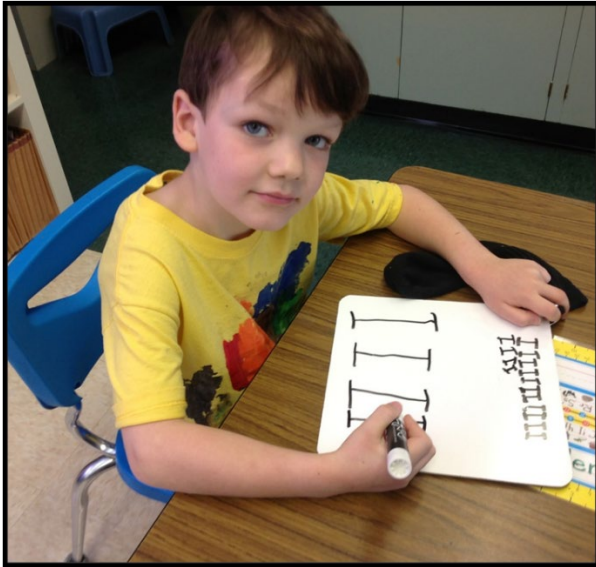
How to Make a Moveable Word Wall as Seen on Nellie Edge Online Seminars

You can download the a-z letters (as flashcards) and key phonics images (cut from Family Reference Chart) from *ABC Phonics: Sing, Sign, and Read!* on the ABC Phonics page at <https://nellieedge.com/>. Back the symbols with construction paper. Laminate and attach magnets. The words shown are from the pink and purple sets included with [Nellie Edge Online Seminars](#) or on [Kindergarten Sight Word Program on our TPT store](#).

About kindergarten "heart words": We organized the highest-use kindergarten sight words into 4 color-coded sets of 16 words each. This gives children and families crystal-clear learning objectives that are differentiated for each learner. We call them "heart words" because children are expected to write them "by heart" as opposed to unknown words that we use phonics-based spelling for. Learn more at <https://nellieedge.com/kindergarten-writing-heart-words/>.

White Erase Boards are Essential Literacy Tools!

We like to round the corners and attach a black sock for the black pen.



About Those White Boards: How to Make Your Own or Where to Buy Them



Or order the 9" x 12" size
on Amazon.com:
"OptiMA Erase
Lapboard"s (set of 15)

- The shower boards comes in 4' x 8' sheets at local home improvement stores.
- Tell the salesperson you're a kindergarten teacher, and they might cut the boards into small pieces for you.
- My favorite size is 9" square.
- Use a skill saw to round the corners.
- Attach black socks with a 1" ring.
- Use black dry erase markers.

Teach students how to use white boards and pens

- *If you don't hear a click, your marker will get sick! (Thank you, Hope Willy)*
- *Erase with socks! Not with fingers!*