

# Forming letters



## Torchlight

In this activity the children go on an adventure, pretending that it is night-time. They use the beams of light from their torches as writing equipment and practise drawing lines with large arm movements. The adventure provides a perfect opportunity to develop language and writing through imaginative play.

**Early writers** make writing patterns and write the initial letters in their names.

**More confident writers** identify and write the letters they see in the signs along the journey and list the animals they have seen.

### What you need

Selection of small torches; darkened area such as a tent or a den made from blankets or fabric draped over tables or clothes airers; signs saying 'The dark forest', 'The campsite', 'Stony River' and 'Blue Top Mountains', arranged

along the route you want to take, with 'The campsite' as the last sign.

### What to do

- Explain to the children that you are going to imagine that you will be setting out on an adventure at night-time. Ask the children what they could take with them to help them see where they are going. Let each

child choose a torch. Talk about the journey and tell the children that you will be going through the 'dark forest', along the side of 'Stony River', over the 'Blue Top Mountains' to the 'campsite'.

- When you reach the tent, go inside and ask the children to use the beam of light from their torches to write the first letter of their names on the side of the tent, as a signal telling anyone else in the campsite that they have arrived. Then give the children time to experiment with using the beams of light from their torches to write letters or make patterns.

- Before leaving the tent,

### Learning objectives

#### Stepping Stones

- Draw lines and circles using gross motor movement. (CLL)
- Begin to form recognisable letters. (CLL)

#### Early Learning Goal

- Form recognisable letters, most of which are correctly formed. (CLL)