

### Conducting the Class

Begin the class period by telling the children that they are now going to begin **learning to write capital letters that are made with slanting lines**. Ask, “Who can remember the names of the **two different kinds of slanting lines?**” (Backward- and forward-slanting lines.) **Have one of the children** come to the blackboard, **draw the lines, and name them** as he does so.

Have another child go to the blackboard and **draw the small letter x**. Ask the class to tell you what kind of lines it is made up of. Then explain that **the capital letter X is made very much like the small x**, only bigger. Ask, “Who can tell us how big capital letters are?” (Two spaces high.)

**Demonstrate the capital letter X, giving an explanation** as you do so. **Show the correct slant** for the lines of the letter and the **proper order for the strokes**. The **backward-slanting line is made first, then the forward-slanting line**. The forward-slanting line crosses over the backward-slanting line on the middle line.

Have the children **practice** the letter a few times **at the blackboard**, then send them to their seats to **proceed with the lesson** according to the directions.

### Further Helps for the Teacher

It is important for the children to remember that **the lines of the letter X should always cross at the middle**. Be sure to drill this into your children.

Pay close attention to the material covered in the review section, which you will notice is being reintroduced in this lesson. Watch your children’s work here to see how they have maintained their ability to make letters or numerals previously learned.

If you have time, you may want to explain to the children that **the capital letter X is not used often in words**. This is why we need to use an uncommon word such as *Xenia* for a practice word. Pronounce it for them (zē’nēə), and explain that it is the name of a city in Ohio.