

## Lesson 12

# Alignment

### Aim of the Lesson

To teach the children the importance and the practice of even alignment in handwriting.

### Comments to the Teacher

1. Begin by discussing the material in the upper right corner of the lesson.

2. Using the word *animal*, have the children practice on the blackboard, striving to keep all the small letters even in height and even along the bottom.


3. Before the children begin the lesson, stress *how* they can keep their letters even at the top and firmly resting on the base line. It simply means to be careful that every stroke goes neither higher nor lower than it should.

4. Demonstrate good alignment on the blackboard.

5. As the children proceed with the lesson, emphasize alignment by holding a ruler across the tops of their letters when they are out of line. Also call the child's attention to it when his letters are not resting firmly on the base line.

6. A "windshield wiper" type of writing promotes poor alignment. Be sure your children are moving their wrists smoothly across the page. Some children will say they can't, but you should insist that they *can*, with practice.

7. Be exacting with alignment in your evaluation of this lesson. Draw lines to show where the children's writing is out of alignment.

Example: 

### Practice Sentences

1. Whales are hunted for their oil.
2. Whales breathe air as we do.
3. Whales are found only in oceans.
4. A whale is not a fish but a mammal.