Name _____ Date _____

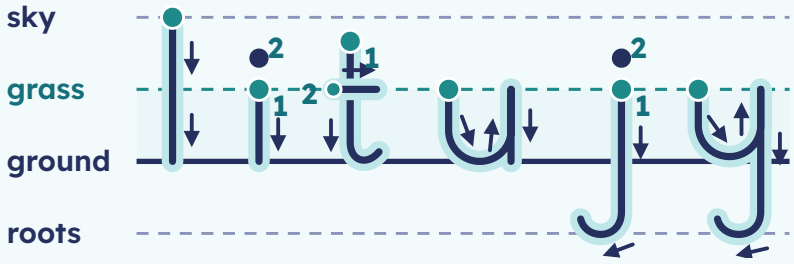
Long ladder letters

l, i, t, u, j and y start at the top and go down.

1 Learn



Ladder letters start at the **top** and go **down**, like climbing down a ladder. Start at the big dot.



Tall letters reach the **sky**. Small letters stay in the **grass**. Tails dig into the **roots**.

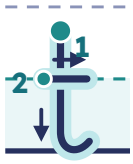
How to write t



1 Start at the dot, **below the sky line**.



2 Go **down** to the ground, with a little curve.



3 **Lift** your pencil. Go across on the grass line.

Flip's tip: down line first! The dot on **i** and **j**, and the line across **t**, always go on **last**.

Warm up: trace the ladder lines. Start at the dot and go down.



Grown-ups: read Flip's words aloud and trace the big letters together with a finger first, saying "start at the top and go down". Watch where your child starts, more than how neat it looks.

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2 Try it together a child and a grown-up, about 10 minutes



Giant ladder letters

You need: a baking tray or a plate with a thin layer of flour, salt or sugar.

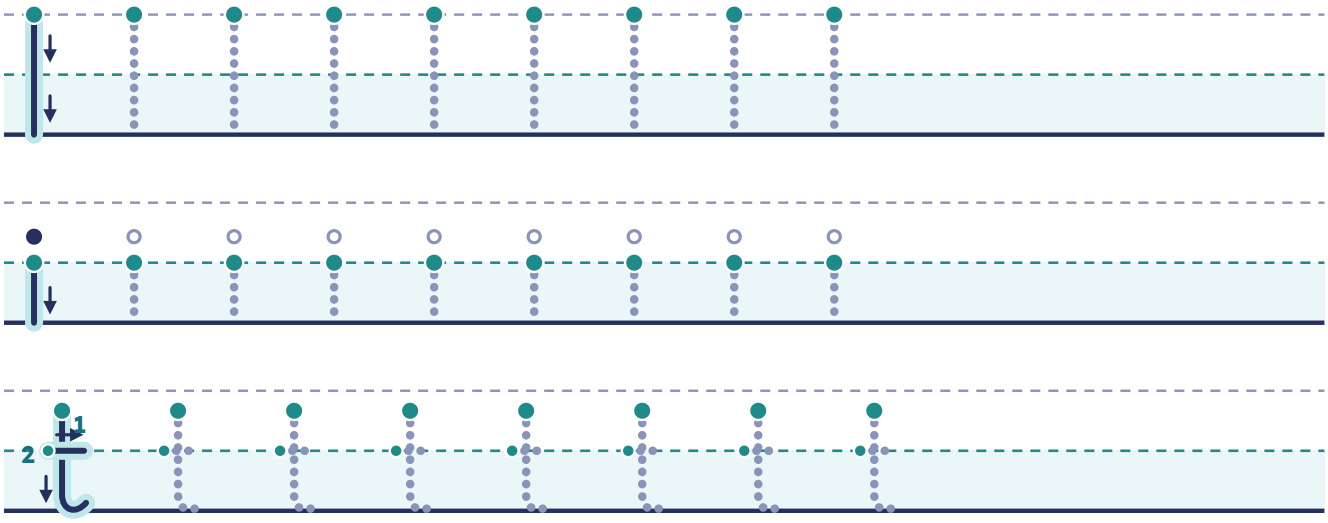
1. Stand up tall. Draw a **giant l** in the air with your whole arm. Say "start at the top and go down".
2. The grown-up draws a ladder letter on your child's **back** with one finger. Can they guess it? Then swap.
3. Write **l, i, t, u, j** and **y** in the tray with one finger. Shake the tray gently to rub each one out.
4. Tick each letter you made in the air and in the tray.

	l	i	t	u	j	y
In the air						
In the tray						

Grown-ups: if your child starts at the bottom, smile and draw a dot at the top of the tray: "Let's start here." For i and j, the dot goes on last.

3 Practise

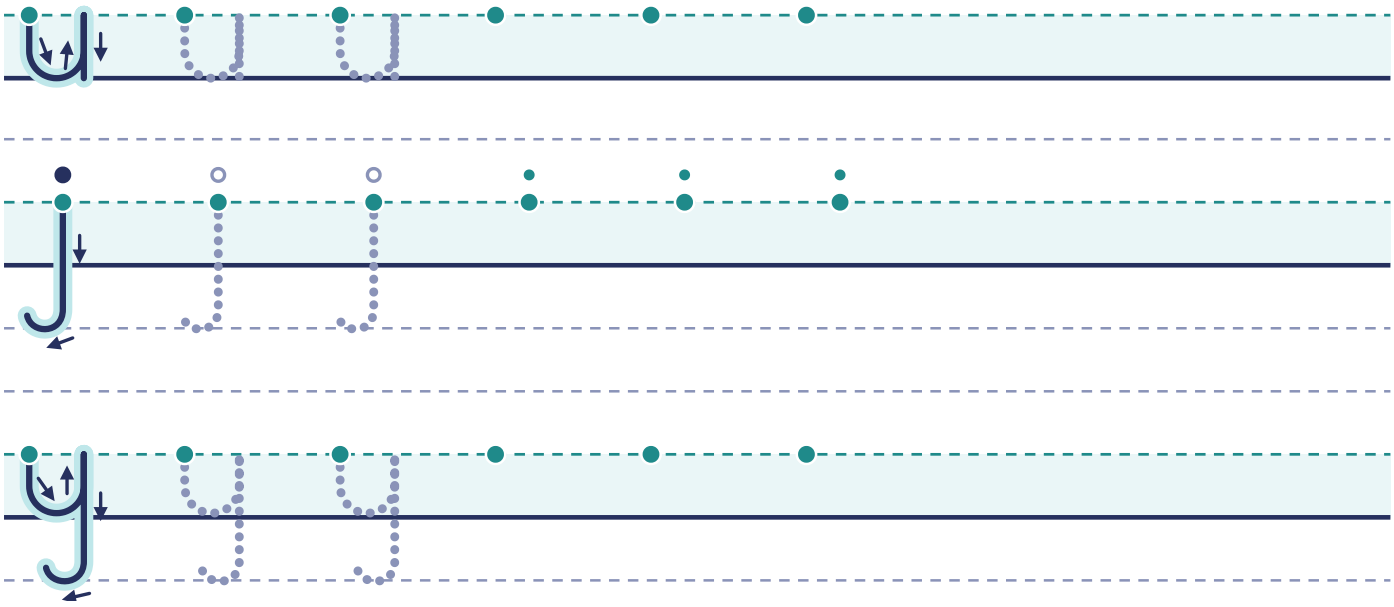
A. Look at the first letter. Then trace the rest, starting at each dot.



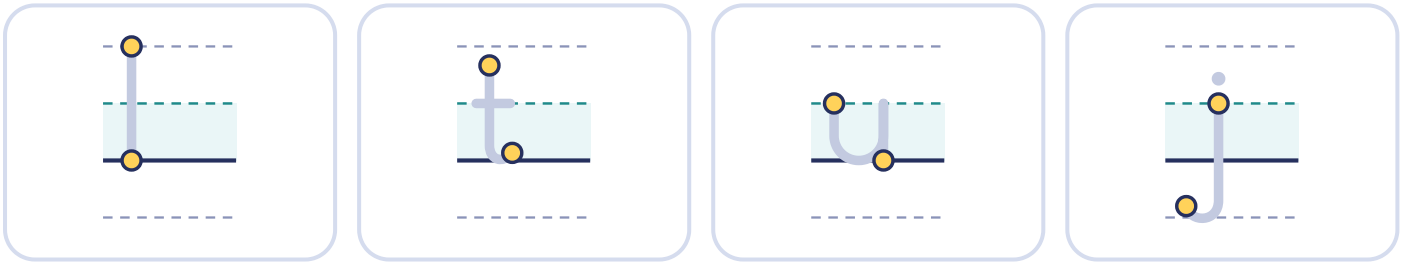
Long ladder letters

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B. Trace two. Then write your own, starting at each dot.



C. Where does each letter start? Draw a ring round the right dot.



Challenge

Ava writes **l** from the bottom, going up. "It looks just the same!" she says. Does it matter where she starts?

Talk about it with your grown-up.

I can... Tick when you can.

- [ ] start ladder letters at the top and go down
- [ ] add the dot or the line across last
- [ ] make the tails of j and y dig into the roots