

How to Help Your Child Write the Numbers (AKA: How to Spot a Number That is Will Not "Pass")

Dear Parents,

This is what we are looking for when we test on number writing in kindergarten. Believe it or not, this is one of the more difficult tests for the children to pass by November, so it really will take quite a bit of practice at home for some of the children to catch on! (Remember, the goal is that they must write from 0-10 from **memory**; *no copying or coaching at all!* Just tell your child to write the numbers from 0-10 and walk away. When you come back a few minutes later, you should see those numbers written on the paper.) If your child is making some of the mistakes below, please help him or her "conquer" them as soon as possible, since we will be testing on them for the last time in the first week of November. That just gives us a couple more weeks to practice, so hurry! Your child's most recent test paper is attached so you can see how he or she did.

THANK YOU!!!

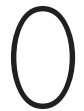
Incorrect
Examples

Notes

Correct
Examples



It's tough to mess up a zero, but it can happen! Usually when the children miss it, it is because they forget to write it altogether. But sometimes they decorate it, which is a no-no! Tell them to make a plain old zero, please!



This number one on the left looks like a seven because there is a "hook" on it. Have your child draw a number one that is just a straight line with **no flap or hook on the end**.



This number two on the left looks like a backwards letter S because the line on the bottom of the two is not straight and the diagonal line that connects the top and the bottom is curvy, not straight. **The bottom line must be straight as an arrow.**



This number three on the left does not pass because the **curves in the middle are not connected**. It sort of looks like an M on it's side. See the sample on the right and have your child practice drawing it that way.



This number four on the left does not pass because it is **missing the little overlap line right here**. This one doesn't pass either, because they are not supposed to make "triangle fours." **No "triangle fours!"**



Incorrect
Examples

Notes

Correct
Examples



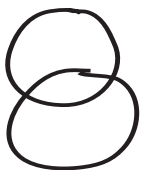
This number five on the left does not pass because it looks like an S. **It needs a straight line on top, a straight line on the side, and a large curved "tummy" for the bottom part.**



This number 6 on the left does not pass because the round part is too large and the curved line is too short. It looks too much like a zero with an extra line on the top. **It should look like a six, not a zero.**



This number 7 on the left does not pass because the line going down is not drawn diagonally, but straight down vertically. **The line going down must be diagonal, not vertical.**



This number 8 on the left does not pass because it is drawn as two circles like a snowman, rather than like the one on the right. To make an eight, start with an S and then go back up to the top. **No "snowman eights!"**



This number 9 on the left is incorrect because the circle and the line do not touch. The two parts of the numeral must touch and be connected for it to pass. **The circle and the stick must touch.**



This number 10 on the left is incorrect because the zero is written first, and this changes the value of the number. **Re-versals can count as correct in Kindergarten, as long as there aren't "too many." Also, they cannot change the value of the number.** So a 12 written as a 21 would not pass.



Not sure if a number would pass as "correct" or not? As a rule of thumb, ask yourself if a person that is not a teacher or a parent would recognize what your child drew as that number. If the answer is "probably not," then try again!