

January Writing Picture Prompts

TRACE IT • FINISH IT • WRITE IT



• 52 pages • 12 prompts • 3 levels



One complete kit for a month of picture-prompt writing: 12 January prompts, each built around one clear picture with its word printed under it, each printed three ways so the whole room writes about the same thing and nobody's paper is obviously the easy one.

THREE STEPS

- 1 Pick the prompt and the page**
 Every prompt has three pages in a row: **Trace It** (the sentence starter in dotted letters), **Finish It** (the same starter in solid print) and **Write It** (the picture and the word bank only). The contents on page 5 gives every page number. Hand out the three versions together; the picture and the word bank are the same on all three.
- 2 Talk first, then print or type the name**
 Say the picture's name, ask what the student sees, and say the sentence out loud before the pencil moves (the talk-first questions are on page 4). Every page prints clean in black and white. The name and date lines, the tracker, the class grid and the family page are type-in fields in any PDF reader; the writing rows are always pencil work.
- 3 Record it, send the family page**
 Date the page and note the version used on the writing tracker (page 46), roll the class up on page 47, and send the week's prompt home on page 48. A filled example is on page 49.

WHICH PAGE, WHEN

WHEN...	USE...
Copies the letters but does not yet write words	Trace It — the starter is traced, then finished with a word from the bank
Reads a sentence starter and can add words	Finish It — the starter is printed; the student reads it and finishes it
Writes a sentence on their own	Write It — picture and word bank only, six empty rules
Free writing or a fast finisher	My January Page, page 44 — a draw box and rules, no prompt
Posting the vocabulary	Word wall, page 6 (color) and page 7 (ink saver); checklists to cut apart, page 45
Writing a progress note or a note home	Phrase bank, page 50

Everything inside (52 pages)

- **36 prompt pages** — 12 January prompts, three pages each: Trace It, Finish It, Write It
- **12 word banks** with a picture beside every word, and a **36-word word wall** in color and in ink saver
- **1 free-writing page, 1 page of 6 cut-apart sentence checklists, 1 binder cover** with spine label and six tabs
- **1 writing tracker** (one student) and **1 class grid** (whole class), type-in or print
- **1 family page, 1 filled example** (an invented student), **1 phrase bank**

How to read a page

Page 4 shows the parts of a prompt page — the picture, the word bank, the drawn sentence starter, the three writing rules — and how the three versions differ. The dots on the name line are the version code, there for you: no student page carries a level word, and every page is the same slate tone.

What a student holds: the 36 prompt pages (pages 8–43) and the free-writing page (page 44). **What is for you:** everything else — the word walls, checklists, tracker, class grid, family page, example and phrase bank.





THE PARTS OF A PROMPT PAGE



- 
The picture and the word bank
 One object, big enough to see across a table, with its word printed under it. Beside it, four or five bank words, each with its own picture, the same on all three versions and all on the word wall.
- 
Dotted starter (Trace It)
 The sentence starter in dotted letters on the first rule. The student traces it and finishes the sentence on the same rule.
- 
Solid starter (Finish It)
 The same words in solid print, drawn with the same letter shapes, so the traced and the read starter look alike. Write It has no starter at all.
- 
Three rules, name line, dots
 A solid top line, a dashed middle line, a heavy bottom line, six to a page. The dots by the name line are the only version code: one, two or three.

THE THREE PAGES FOR EVERY PROMPT

Trace It



Copies letters, not yet words: trace the starter, then add a bank word to finish it.

Finish It



Reads a starter and adds words: read it, finish it, keep going on the rules below.

Write It



Writes a sentence alone: the picture and the word bank are the only cue; six empty rules.

Talk first: for you, a para or a volunteer

- “What is this?” — the student names it. If the name is different, say the word. Point to it.
- “What do you know about it? What does it do? Where do you see it?” — two or three answers out loud.
- “Say your sentence.” — the student says the whole sentence before writing a letter. Repeat it back once.
- “Which word bank word will you use?” — the student points to it. Then write.

Moving between the three pages

- Trace It → Finish It: the student reads the traced starter back aloud and the finish is a real word, not a copied bank word alone.
- Finish It → Write It: the student adds a second sentence on the empty rules without being asked.
- Going back is fine: a student can be on Write It for one prompt and Trace It for the next; the tracker records each on its own.
- Write your district’s own criterion, if it has one, here:

Printing, copying and the type-in fields

Pictures read in grayscale; the ink-saver word wall (page 7) is heavy black outline. Type into the name lines, tracker, class grid and family page in any PDF reader; the writing rules are pencil only. A PDF, not a slideshow or a word-processor file.





Every prompt has three pages in a row, in this order. The page number prints in the footer of every page.

#	PROMPT	SENTENCE STARTER	WORD BANK	TRACE IT	FINISH IT	WRITE IT
1	The Bear	A bear likes to ...	bear, fish, paw prints, moon, tree	8	9	10
2	The Wolf	A wolf howls at the ...	wolf, moon, star, cloud, tree	11	12	13
3	My Dog	My dog wants the ...	dog, bone, paw prints, house, heart	14	15	16
4	My Cat	My cat plays with ...	cat, bed, yarn, mouse, fish	17	18	19
5	Popcorn	I like popcorn with ...	popcorn, butter, cheese, milk	20	21	22
6	A Pizza Slice	I eat pizza with ...	pizza, cheese, mushroom, milk	23	24	25
7	The Clock	The clock helps me ...	clock, bed, moon, backpack, book	26	27	28
8	My Backpack	In my backpack ...	backpack, pencil, book, crayon, scissors	29	30	31
9	A Puzzle Piece	A puzzle piece fits ...	puzzle piece, hand, house, star	32	33	34
10	The Thermometer	When it is cold I ...	thermometer, coat, gloves, cloud	35	36	37
11	The Telescope	I look at the ...	telescope, moon, star, cloud	38	39	40
12	The Key	The key opens the ...	key, door, house, heart	41	42	43

Also in this file

Word wall, pages 6 (color) and 7 (ink saver) · free-writing page, 44 · cut-apart sentence checklists, 45 · writing tracker, 46 · class grid, 47 · family page, 48 · filled example, 49 · phrase bank, 50 · binder cover and tabs, 51.





Every word from every word bank, 36 words, the same pictures the prompt pages use. Post it, or put a copy on each desk.
An ink-saver copy is on page 7.



bear



fish



paw prints



moon



tree



wolf



star



cloud



dog



bone



house



heart



cat



bed



yarn



mouse



popcorn



butter



cheese



milk



pizza



mushroom



clock



backpack



book



pencil



crayon



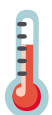
scissors



puzzle piece



hand



thermometer



coat



gloves



telescope



key



door



NAME

DATE



Trace the words. Then finish the sentence. The word bank can help.



bear

WORD BANK



bear



fish



paw prints



moon



tree

A bear likes to

Handwriting practice lines consisting of multiple sets of three horizontal lines (top, middle dashed, bottom) for writing practice.



NAME

DATE



Read the sentence starter. Finish the sentence. Use the word bank.



bear

WORD BANK



bear



fish



paw prints



moon



tree

A bear likes to





NAME

DATE



Look at the picture. Write your own sentences. Use the word bank.



bear

WORD BANK



bear



fish



paw prints



moon



tree

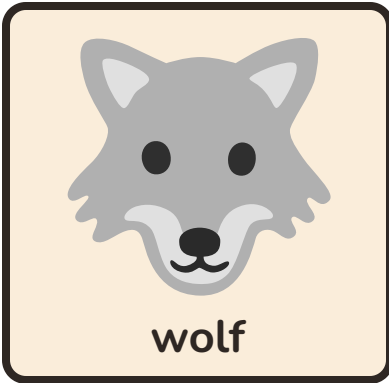


NAME

DATE



Read the sentence starter. Finish the sentence. Use the word bank.



WORD BANK



wolf



moon



star



cloud



tree

A wolf howls at the

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed middle line. There are four sets of these lines for writing practice.



NAME

DATE 



Draw something you like about this month. Then write about it. The word wall can help.

MY PICTURE



STUDENT

TEACHER

MONTH

PROMPT	DATE	PAGE USED (T / F / W)	SENTENCES	BANK WORDS USED	WHAT I NOTICED
1. The Bear					
2. The Wolf					
3. My Dog					
4. My Cat					
5. Popcorn					
6. A Pizza Slice					
7. The Clock					
8. My Backpack					
9. A Puzzle Piece					
10. The Thermometer					
11. The Telescope					
12. The Key					

Codes

T Trace It · **F** Finish It · **W** Write It. Write the page the student actually used that day; a student can sit at different pages on different prompts. Count sentences and bank words off the page itself. Filled example: page 49.

THIS MONTH WE ARE WORKING ON (CAPITAL LETTER, FINGER SPACES, PERIOD, A SECOND SENTENCE...)





STUDENT

WEEK OF

THIS WEEK'S PICTURE PROMPT

WORDS FROM THE WORD BANK

How to help at home, in three steps

- Talk first. Name the picture together and ask what your child knows about it. Two or three answers out loud is plenty.
- Say the sentence before writing it. Your child says the whole sentence; you say it back once; then the pencil moves.
- One sentence is enough. Write any word your child asks for in the "words we needed" box, and stop while it is still going well.

YOUR CHILD WRITES ONE SENTENCE ABOUT SOMETHING AT HOME

WORDS WE NEEDED

DAYS WE WROTE THIS WEEK

NOTE FROM THE TEACHER

NOTE FROM HOME





Theo is invented; nothing on this page describes a real student. The blank tracker is on page 46.

STUDENT

TEACHER

MONTH

Theo M. (an invented student)

Ms. Park (invented)

January

PROMPT	DATE	PAGE USED (T / F / W)	SENTENCES	BANK WORDS USED	WHAT I NOTICED
1. The Bear	1/6	T	1	1	Traced the starter and pointed to the bank word before writing it
2. The Wolf	1/8	T	1	2	Finished with two bank words; read the traced starter back aloud
3. My Dog	1/12	F	1	1	Read the printed starter alone; capital letter, no period yet
4. My Cat	1/14	F	2	2	Wrote a second sentence on the next rule without being asked
5. Popcorn	1/16	F	2	2	Period on both sentences; finger spaces on the second
6. A Pizza Slice	1/21	W	1	1	Moved up to Write It after three Finish It pages
7. The Clock	1/23	W	2	3	Two sentences from the picture and bank alone; period on 1 of 2

How to read it

Seven prompts so far. Theo used Trace It for 2, Finish It for 3 and Write It for 2; the first Write It page was prompt 6. 10 sentences and 12 word-bank words across the seven pages. Two sentences on prompts 4, 5, 7. Next: prompt 8 on Write It again, with the period as the thing to watch. Every number here comes from the table above.

Two things the notes column is for

- What you saw, in plain words: pointed to the bank word, read the starter alone, finger spaces, a period. Prompts 1, 3 and 5 above are that kind of note.
- What you did about it: the page moved up (prompt 6 above). Never a conclusion about the student — that is the meeting's job, with the whole record in front of it.

THE SAME SEVEN PROMPTS ON THE CLASS GRID (PAGE 47)

STUDENT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Theo M.	T	T	F	F	F	W	W	-	-	-	-	-

The family note this tracker would produce

"This week our picture prompt was the clock. Theo is now writing from the picture and the word bank alone. At home, ask Theo to say the whole sentence before writing it. The thing to watch this week is the period at the end." — every fact in it is a row of the table.





THANK YOU FOR USING THIS RESOURCE

Everything here was built for the teacher who has thirty minutes of planning time and twelve students who each need something different. If this helped, leaving feedback on TPT helps other teachers find it.

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WHAT'S NEXT FROM THIS STORE



December Writing Picture Prompts

The month before: twelve prompts, three pages each, with word banks and a word wall.



November Writing Picture Prompts

Twelve November prompts on the same three pages: trace it, finish it, write it.



October Writing Picture Prompts

Twelve October prompts, each with a word bank and a picture to name and write about.



Letter Formation Handwriting Tracing A-Z

The page before the sentence: every letter with start dots and arrows, traced, faded, written.

Part of the K-2 Handwriting and Writing collection — new products in this collection are added regularly, including the next month of picture prompts. Click **Follow** on the store page and TPT will email you when they go up.

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