

Welcome to cursive lesson 5! We're going to get started with letter u. Go ahead and get this worksheet out, and let's get going.

Here we have letter u. This is the 'u' that you are used to seeing in print in books. This would be the similar one to the one that you write. Let's go ahead and put the cursive one over it. And it fits. It's just slightly slanted here, but it does fit over it. Basically, what you're doing is you're just making a lead-in stroke just like you do on a letter i. And if you stopped here, it really would look like a cursive 'i'. But then you're going up and doing it again to get this other side of the 'u' in here. And then here is your release stroke and that's the letter 'u'. Now we are going to get cracking on writing some of these.

We're going to code the 'u' here. So, it is just like the letter 'i' when you do an under curve coming up and then you bring a slant line down and that is going to connect to another under curve, so it's kind of like you're making two i's together. And then another slant line is going to come down and then an under-curve line is going to release. So, you're basically making two cursive i's that are connected. It's just going to make a 'u' when you put them together. So, we're going to go ahead and get started with our lesson. Here's our first 'u'. So, it is under curve up, slant down, under curve up, slant down, and release. And there's our 'u'. Up... down... up... down... release. Should be a pretty easy feeling. Pretty smooth. Okay. We're going to try one on our own. Up... down... up... down... release. Just try to make sure that you come up and touch that middle dotted line and you sit it on the base-line. Okay, now don't pick up your pencil. We're going to come up... loop back... curve around... in and release to make that 'p' and we've got the word 'up'. Let's try it here on our own. Up... down... up... down... up for the 'p', down below the baseline, loop back, curve around, in and release. And then let's try that again. Make that lead-in. Make that 'u', don't pick up your pencil. Loop back, curve around and release. And again. Loop back, curve around, connect, and release. Looks good! Okay. Now we're going to put some more letters together. Here we're going to do a 'p' first. Loop back, around, connect, and go up into a 'u'. And then into your next 'p'. If I'm going too fast just pause the video so you can catch up or you can always rewind. Now we're going to do this one on our own. Up... loop back... curve around... connect... bring it out... come into that 'u', and then another 'p', loop back... curve around, bring it out and we have spelled pup.

Now we're going to add a new letter. There's our u, don't pick up your pencil, curve around. We're making a 'g'. And we've got pug. Maybe your pup is a pug. Okay. Let's make our 'p' again. Connect to bring it out, make that 'u' down, curve around for the 'g'. That one has a different initial line and release. Now we're going to write cup. I'm going to make that lead-in... 'u' and then go into the letter 'p'. It's getting easier isn't it? I'm sure you're feeling more comfortable with it. You're not maybe having to hold on to your pencil as tightly. Okay. cup

go into that u, go up, curve back to make that p, and release. Now we're going to start with a d. I'm going to make that lead in. You don't have to. You can start at the top. 'u' and then go into that 'g' and release. Okay. 'd'. Make sure you connect. Make that 'u'. Go slow so that you can keep control. You don't want it to get all crazy or it won't be easy to read. Alright, now we're going to make a 'd', 'u', and then another 'd', and we'll have a dud, maybe it's a milk dud, I like those. 'd'... 'u'... 'd' and we've got it! And that was the letter u. Go in circle your very best one. I'm thinking actually, that I have several good ones. I like this one right here. It's not too tall, it's sitting on the line, it's touching that middle-dotted line, I like it.

Here we have a 'w'. And we are going to take a look at the cursive 'w'. Now when you make a printed 'w', you may actually curve this at the bottom rather than making it pointed and it would probably look a more similar to the letter 'u' like two u's together and that's why they call it a double-u. Here is the cursive 'w' and it is definitely curved at the bottom. Now here's what's funny about a 'w' because it really is just two u's kind of pushed together. We are going to go up here. We are going to come down just like we're making a 'u' go back up come down and there's our 'u'. Now to make it look like a 'w' we have to go up again. But, to make it less confusing, we can't come back down here because then it would look like maybe a 'u' and an 'i' together or it just wouldn't be clear what letters these were. So, you're going to leave this little line up at the top and we're going to learn how to do this. This is called a check stroke, and this is what is going to connect to the next letter but it's going to connect up high. So, it sounds a little funny. There's a few letters that do this but it's just to avoid confusion because you came back down here, you wouldn't really know what letter it was. So, let's practice and we're going to learn how to make a check stroke.

So we're going to make a lot of under-curve lines and slant lines. More than we made with the 'u'. So, we are going to go up into an under-curve and then we're going to come down into a slant. And then we're going to go up into an under-curve and then we're going to come down into a slant and there's our 'u' technically. Here is the release stroke that we'd have for the 'u', but it's the rest of the 'w'. And then the 'w' doesn't end at the bottom like most cursive letters do. It has to end up here at the top, because if you came down again it would be confusing as to whether this was a 'u' and then maybe another 'u'. Or, if it was a 'u' and an 'i', so it wouldn't be clear that it was a 'w', so it ends at the top. This is actually called a check-stroke, we don't have a specific color for that. So, I'm just going to make it blue just to highlight it, but it's called the check stroke. There's only a few letters that end at the top of the letter, and we're going to figure out how to connect those when we start right here. So, let's get started. We're going to practice making a few. You're basically just making an additional couple lines on your 'u'. So, up, down, and then this would be our 'u'. We'd release right there, but we're going up again. Touch that middle-line. Just come down into a little scoop. And that is your check-stroke. That is what is going to connect to the next letter

and we're going to figure out how to do this in just a minute. Up, down, up, down, up and then your little check stroke. And another 'w' and then the check-stroke. Let's try one on our own. Up, down, up. There's our 'u', but we want it to be a 'w' and then the check-stroke. Up, down, up, down. There we go! And another one. This lead end didn't show up. There we go. Now we're going to figure out how to connect this check stroke to another letter. So, when you have a letter coming after it, now normally 'a' would start at the bottom and come up like this when we connect it to another letter. But it would look like an 'i'. So, we're just going to do the check stroke and go right into the top of the 'a' and curve back around and then bring it down. So, let's try one on our own. Up, up, up. That check-stroke goes right into the 'a'. Touch that dotted line, go down into your 'a' and then release. Now we're going to put it into a word. Right here. Go right into that 'a'. Make sure you touch that dotted line, come down, make the 'd', go up, touch that top line and release. And we've got wad. Maybe you have a wad of cash in your piggy bank. That would be pretty cool. Okay. Another 'w' here. Don't forget the check-stroke. Around, make the 'd' and release. So, if you're ever writing and you forget at the end of the 'w' to make the check stroke and you come all the way down you need to erase that and go back up and do it, because otherwise it's not going to be readable. It's going to look really funny. No one's going to know what it actually says. So that is why some letters end at the top, because you wouldn't be able to determine what letter it is, so be really careful with that. Okay.

Now we can actually start making more and more words. We're making paw. Go into your 'a' and then go into your 'w' and the check-stroke is gonna end. You're not going to have to connect it to anything. I got a little wonky right there. Okay. Now let's make our own paw. Loop back, curve around, connect, go into your 'a', your 'w', and your check-stroke. It'll get more comfortable the more and more you do it. Just a new type of line. Go into that 'a', go right into that 'g', and release. Now let's see if we can write wag on our own. Don't forget, if I'm going too fast, you can pause it to catch up. You can back it up. Alright. Now start with a 'j' up, loop back, go into that 'a'. It's not tricky when w's at the end of a word check-stroke because you don't have to connect it to anything. Don't forget to go back and dot your 'j'. But it is tricky when it's in the middle or at the beginning of a word and you've got to connect it. So, just be paying attention to that. Okay. Up, loop back, go right into the 'a', into the 'w', and then check it off, and then dot that 'j'. Okay. Now we're gonna spell... oh that was jaw by the way. And now we're going to spell caw. Maybe that's what the crows are saying out in the field. Okay. One more time. Okay. My best 'w'. They're not looking too bad. Actually, this one is kind of off the line. This one actually looks really good. I have a good check-stroke on there. I like it. As always, if you have more time, you can go back and do some practicing. I always find that it's a little easier on my hand, on my grip when I practice with a highlighter because you just can't really see those mistakes as well. And so, I'm just for some reason I

just don't hold the pen as tightly. Not as worried about it being perfect, but it gets that muscle memory in my hand. Pretty soon your muscles will just remember what to do and you won't have to think about it so hard. Okay! Don't forget to tune in for the next lesson. Thank you so much for joining me on this one. I will see you in lesson 6!