The kinesthetic nature of workbook exercises provides an important opportunity for your student to practice the physical acts of letter formation and writing, while reinforcing literacy concepts in a multisensory way.

Workbook is a time for tutors to work closely with their student and teach into specific concepts.

While working collaboratively with your student on Workbook over Zoom can be challenging, here are some tips to help you keep Workbook interactive and productive:

- Ask your student to read the directions out loud to you, and reread them as necessary. This not only allows you to hear the instructions, but also reinforces the habit of carefully reading the directions for your student.

- Before they start working, ask the student to turn the page to the camera so you can preview the exercises and content. This will help you to better understand what the student is working on and what to expect, and to listen for possible errors.

- Focus on one part of the page at a time so your student can frequently check in with you by holding the page up to the camera, and to prevent your student from becoming overwhelmed or rushing. Have your student read the exercises aloud as they work.

- Each student has received a small whiteboard (a real one!) from NHR. Encourage your student to use the whiteboard to practice their answers and to break down words as needed, showing you over the camera. This makes it easier for you to see their writing, work through a word or concept, and also allows them to practice their answer before they commit it to paper. You can break down a word for your student by asking them to share the Zoom whiteboard for you to work on, or using physical materials and showing the camera.

- Use the “Ask For Help” feature if you or your student needs further assistance. Site staff are more familiar with the workbook content and may have access to the pages themselves. Staff can provide assistance or suggest an alternative activity.

- If Workbook time presents serious challenges or you felt it best to skip certain activities to prevent student frustration, include this in your session notes. Site staff can suggest ideas to help you support your student, or prepare alternative activities to practice the concepts.

- When your student reaches the posttest, use the “Ask for Help” feature. Site directors have the test keys and can administer the test to your student. Include it in your session notes if your student finishes a workbook so site staff can prepare further materials.

- Quality over quantity! It’s okay if you and your student do not complete as many workbook pages as you normally would in person. As long as you are able to provide the support your student needs to grasp and practice the concepts presented, consider it a success!