

Tips for Workbook

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!