

Casey the Caterpillar

Casey the Caterpillar is a handwriting programme that we use in our Junior Rooms at Toko School.

The programme is based on a story about Casey the Caterpillar who hatches out of an egg and meets lots of different things or shapes in her journey to become a butterfly. From Casey and the things and shapes she meets on her journey, the children learn a memorable, visual code that supports the correct formation and direction of letters.

We make connections between letters that start with the same shape. For example c, o, a, d, g and q all start with a c shape that we call Casey's open mouth. We can group h, n and m together because these letters all have a tunnel shape in them. And j, y and g all have a possum tail shape that hangs below the line. We talk about tall sticks and short sticks and how when we write them they always have to go "down to the branch" which is how we remind ourselves to always start at the top of the line or the middle of a line when we write a letter.

We think Casey the Caterpillar is a fun programme that helps us learn.