Core Skills Analysis

Writing Skills

- The activity highlights a focus on handwriting and fine motor skills, indicating the child is working through difficulties in letter formation and legibility.
- It suggests the child is becoming aware of writing as a skill to improve, which is important for developing self-monitoring and revision habits.
- Attention to writing challenges can foster early problem-solving strategies, such as practicing stroke order or letter spacing.
- Recognizing writing difficulties opens an opportunity to explore phonics and spelling connections to improve writing fluency.

Tips

To further support writing improvement, incorporate multisensory activities such as using sand trays or finger paints to practice letter shapes. Encourage daily short journaling prompts to build confidence with expressive writing and fluency. Pair handwriting practice with reading aloud exercises to strengthen letter-sound relationships. Additionally, use technology tools like typing programs or tracing apps to mix fun with skill building, helping maintain motivation.

Book Recommendations

- <u>Scribbles</u>, <u>Squiggles</u>, <u>and Letters</u> by Lynne Rickards: A playful guide to help young learners develop handwriting skills through fun activities and exercises.
- <u>Handwriting Workbook for Kids</u> by Jane Baker: An age-appropriate workbook designed to improve handwriting legibility with step-by-step practice.
- <u>My First Writing Workbook</u> by School Zone: A beginner's workbook focused on letter formation and basic writing exercises to build early writing confidence.

Learning Standards

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.3.1: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.3.2: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.1: Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.2: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas clearly.

Try This Next

- Create a worksheet with dotted letters for tracing and then freehand writing practice.
- Design a writing prompt journal where the child writes 2-3 sentences daily about their favorite activities.

Growth Beyond Academics

This activity reveals early frustration or self-awareness around writing challenges, offering an important chance to cultivate persistence and self-confidence. Providing supportive encouragement nurtures motivation and reduces anxiety associated with learning new skills.