

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCE

To extend the use of *Type has a body...Just like you!* in the classroom, this educational resource is filled with engaging activities that are bound to get kids thinking!

Suitable for Grades 3-6, Junior Secondary School levels and Graphic Design students.



### Learn about letterforms and typefaces

Just like your body, each letterform has a structure. Some have arms, a neck, a shoulder or an eye. Each of these letterforms belong to a Typeface family with their own characteristics, such as size, shape and form.

Come with us on a journey of letterforms and typefaces and see how they relate to the body, and the many different families they belong to.

## Contents of the Additional resources

- Questions to ask before we begin reading **Type has a body ... Just like you!**
- Questions to ask while reading **Type has a body ... Just like you!**
- Six Activities

## Questions to ask before we begin reading

### Prior knowledge and assumptions

- Have a look at the illustrations on the front cover. What do you think this book will be about?
- When you type on a computer, think about the style of letters that you use. What style of letter do you use to type a heading? Is it slanted, bold or a regular style? Is it old fashioned or modern looking? Is it solid or hollow? Is it curvy or straight?

*Slanted*

**Bold**

Regular

**Old fashioned**

**Modern**

**Solid**

Hollow

*Curvy*

**Straight**

- A letterform describes the strokes that make up the shape of a letter.
  - A letter is also called a font.
  - A collection of related fonts is called a typeface.
  - Fonts in one typeface can be slanted, regular and bold - but they have similar shape letterforms. For example, in the words above, there are five different typefaces used and they have been colour coded.
- Slanted, bold, regular and solid are all written in the typeface Helvetica, Old Fashioned is written in the typeface Georgia, Modern and Straight are written in the typeface Futura, Hollow is written in the typeface Academy Engraved, Curvy is written in the typeface Oleo.
- Look around the room and point out where you can see different typefaces and describe the differences between the letterforms.

## Questions to ask while we are reading

### Comprehension

- Pages 6-9 are about Serifs. Do you think that a letter with a serif looks old fashioned or modern? Where do you often see serif letters? Where do you see letters without serifs?
- On page 9 is Trebuchet a serif or sans serif typeface?  
Hint - 'Sans' is an Old French word, that is still used today, and means 'without'.
- Look around the room or even on your clothing to find serif and sans serif letters.

**serif**

**Sans serif**

**Trebuchet (serif or sans serif?)**

On page 11, look at the style of Zapfino typeface. When could you use this typeface? Would you use it to write an email, a friendly letter or invitation, or an instruction book?

*Zapfino*

S has a spine - shown on page 20. What other letters are made up of curves? What letters do not have curves?

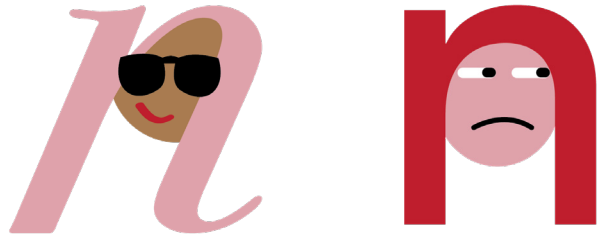
**a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v x y z**

## Activity One

Can you create a face in the letterform?

Try to show the four different emotions listed:

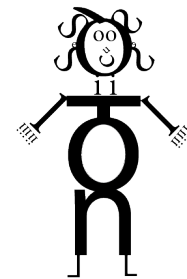
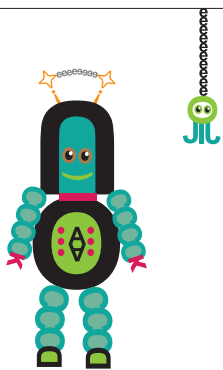
- Happy
- Sad
- Angry
- Friendly




## Activity Two

Can you create a person or a robot made up from letterforms?

You can use the examples below to help with the human structure.



A a  
B b  
C c  
D d  
E e  
F f  
G g  
H h  
I i  
J j  
K k  
L l  
M m  
N n  
O o  
P p  
Q q  
R r  
S s  
T t  
U u  
V v  
W w  
X x  
Y y  
Z z



## Activity three

Compare and contrast

**Bold** - A Bold letter has a thick line weight.

**A**

*Italic* - An italic letter is slanted.

*A*

Regular - A regular letter has a medium thickness line weight.

**A**

Using a line between the two columns, can you match which words are italic, regular and bold?

Letters

Italic

**Have**

Regular

*Body*

Bold

Parts

Bold

*Like*

Regular

**You**

Italic

## Activity Four

### Body parts of a letterform

Can you match the large, colourful letters with the correct word to describe the letter's body part?

K

G

n

X

e

Neck  
Spine  
Foot serif  
Beak  
Hairline  
Tail  
Spur  
Shoulder  
Eye  
Arm  
Head serif

Q

T

S

g



## Activity Five

### Word Scramble

Can you unscramble the letters to answer the clue?

1. T L A I

What is the name on the small detail on a capital letter Q?    \_ \_ \_ \_

2. R A M

Name the horizontal bar across the top of a letter T.    \_ \_ \_

3. E I R F S

These can sit on either the top or bottom or both of some letters    \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

4. E F Y T E A C P

What are groups of letters called that are in one style?    \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

5. Y E E

What can a lowercase E use to see with?    \_ \_ \_

6. P R S U

What do some capital G's have that a rooster uses when angry?    \_ \_ \_ \_

7. D L O B

What is a dark and thick stroke letter called?    \_ \_ \_ \_

8. I N S P E

What is the curved part of a letter S called?    \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

9. C A I L T I

What is the name for slanted letters?    \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

## Activity Six

### Creating your own alphabet

This activity can be undertaken in a variety of ways, depending on the time you have to spend on it.

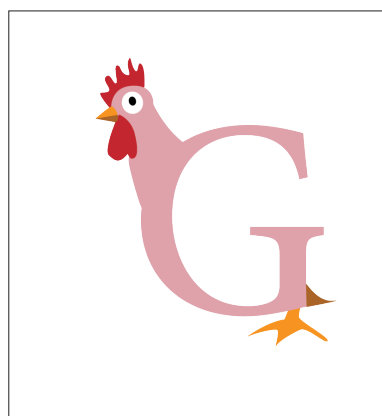
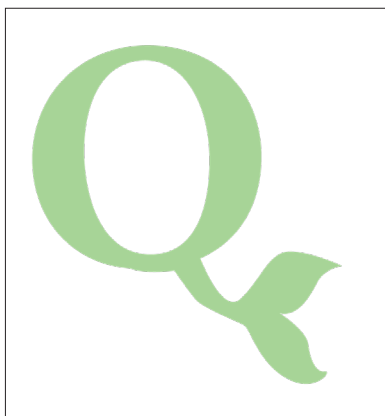
#### Option 1: Design one letter of a new typeface.

Choose a letter of the alphabet and combine an object with an existing typeface to create a new letter.

You may like to choose an object or activity that is of interest to you, such as sport, cooking, music or plants.

The examples below combine a fish tail with the letter Q, and a chicken with a letter G.

If everyone in the class chooses a different letter, the 26 new letters of the alphabet can be displayed in the classroom.



**Option 2: Design all of the letters of your name in a new typeface** – combining pictures with an existing typeface to create a new set of letters. Try to stick to four or five letters and use your nickname if that is shorter than your proper name.

#### Option 3: Design a new alphabet of letters.

Starting with an existing typeface such as Arial or Helvetica, combine imagery with each letter to construct the twenty six letters of the alphabet.

For example the chicken letter above could have features of different farm animals or different birds applied to each letter of the alphabet.

This new alphabet could be called 'Alpha - Beaks'.