Use a Space...Man!
Literacy Skills / Writing

Materials

1. Clothespins or popsicle sticks decorated as astronauts or a “spaceman”
2. Googly eyes or astronaut stickers; offer variety for students to be creative
3. White paint

Virginia SOLs

K.11, 1.11

Procedure

1. To encourage students to leave proper spacing between words, allow students to use a spaceman. Students create a spaceman using a popsicle stick or clothespin. Paint the sticks white and decorate to resemble an astronaut. This is their “spaceman” for leaving spaces.

2. Model how to use a spaceman during a shared writing activity. Place the spaceman after you complete each word and begin the new word to the spaceman’s right.

3. VARIATION: Another great reminder for students to use spaces is imagining words as spaghetti noodles and in between words are meatball spaces. You can illustrate a Morning Message by underlining words in the letter with a squiggly line/noodle and color in the spaces between words as big red meatballs.

Source: (2008). Teichman, A.