

## Fun Ideas for Writing

The following activities could help develop children's writing skills through activities in the home.

- ❖ For children working on their pre-writing skills working with clay or plasticine to make shapes will strengthen their fingers and help develop their fine motor skills.
- ❖ Tracing letters made from dots and lines will help your child to develop their skills in relation to writing letters the correct way.
- ❖ Tracing over letters drawn in highlighter helps with letter formation.
- ❖ Writing with materials other than pencils and paper could encourage interest in letter formation e.g. using chalk, making letter shapes in sand, using pens etc.
- ❖ Making story boards of a favourite film or book where your child could draw pictures telling the story and illustrating them with writing would be a good way of developing writing skills linked to their specific interests.
- ❖ Writing letters to friends and family members would be a good way of staying in touch while developing writing skills.
- ❖ Write a diary each day of the activities you have enjoyed doing.
- ❖ Take photos of yourself doing an activity for example cooking, then sequence the photos and add a caption.
- ❖ If school have sent you comprehension work, re-phrase the questions so they link to a favourite book. They will be easier to answer if you already know the text.
- ❖ Children can make labels for their toys/items in the house.
- ❖ Children can help make the shopping list, this can be written or pictorial.

- ❖ [Sentence starters](#) for older children as a starting point for writing. To add more fun into the work, children can take turns at writing different parts of the story with a sibling or adult. At the end, read the story!
- ❖ Acrostics are simple poems whereby each letter of a word or phrase begins a new line in the poem. Younger students can start off with something very simple, like their own name or their favorite pet and write this vertically down the page.
- ❖ Instructional writing can include writing a list for e.g. How to make the most disgusting sandwich ever? I would not have a bath using...
- ❖ Comic strip stories - children can either make their own comic strip, cut images out of a magazine/newspaper or use a comic strip online. They then add their own writing to the comic strip.
- ❖ [Sentence Pyramid](#) a great visual aid for supporting sentence construction.
- ❖ Cut out sentences and ask you child to sequence them in order. This takes away the physical demand of writing, but still enables them to create sentences/short stories.
- ❖ If you are working with your child, act as their scribe or use voice recording equipment to record your child's story/work. They don't have to always write it down.