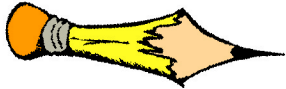


- Board Game

- Create a board game with your child. Draw several large, connected squares. Have your child write funny or silly things for the game players to do and then move spaces on the gameboard (for example- Jump up and down on one foot while singing a song to move your piece 3 spaces. Roar like a lion to move 2 spaces.)

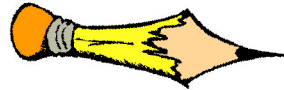


- Family Journal

- Staple several pages together to create a journal. Date a page each day and encourage family members to record things (for example, something interesting that happened to them that day, a funny joke, something they saw on tv., or draw a silly picture with a caption.) This will also encourage your child to read as they look forward to the family's entries that day.

- Comic Book

- Graphic novels are very popular with students. Have your child create a comic book where they are the main character. They can draw pictures and then add talking bubbles to record what the characters are saying. Or... Have your child add talking bubbles to family photos with a sticky note.



- Reading Response

- After reading to your child or after your child reads, have them write a response to what they read.
 - A book review
 - A letter to the main character offering advice
- Questions for the author (try actually mailing or emailing the questions to the author)
 - A new ending to the story
 - A sequel to the story
 - A poem about the story
- Transform the story into a play

Helping Your Child with Writing

Simple Things Parents Can
Do at Home to Encourage
and Improve Writing



Practicing these strategies at home will help your child become a stronger, more confident writer with a natural love of writing.

Writing Tips

1) Let your child see you write

- messages
- recipes
- to-do lists

- supermarket list
- Thank you notes

- Notes to family members or to your child

2) Encourage your child to write

- Thank you notes
- Keep a journal
- Joke books
- Lists
- Dinner Menu

- Food Orders from family members

- Songs and poems

- Write about things that happen to them in everyday life:

(Getting a new pet, loosing a tooth, playing a game, a trip to the park, a playdate)

3) Read aloud to your child.

Reading and writing are connected.

Listening to stories serves as a model to what writing should sound like.

Fun Writing Activities to

Do at Home

- SHHHH!- Have a conversation with your child by writing notes back and forth.

No Talking!

- Suggestion Box- Decorate and cut a lid into a shoebox to create a suggestion box.

Place a pad next to it and encourage family members to make household suggestions and place in the box.

- Note Scavenger Hunt- Place notes for your child on stickie note paper throughout the house. Have a child respond on a sticky note and leave his/her note next to yours.

- Caption Action- Cut out pictures from magazines and glue to a piece of construction paper. Have your child write a caption to go along with the picture. Or... Have your child place the pictures in some sort of sequence and then write a story about the pictures.



- Build a Story- Both you and your child write down three words on a sheet of paper and then switch papers. Each of you will then write a story that connects the three words. Or as a variation, choose to write a funny, scary or informative story using the words.



Materials to Keep at Home to Encourage Writing

- sticky notes
- markers
- colored pencils
- stamps with stamp pads
- pads
- mechanical pencils
- highlighters
- colored paper
- tape
- lined and unlined paper
- colored paper
- fold a few sheets of paper in half (vertically and horizontally) and staple at the left to create books