



How can I help my child with writing?

Provide.....

A range of materials to encourage writing, drawing and publishing, e.g. pencils, markers, paper, scissors, paste, old magazines.

Write together...

Make your own shopping list and encourage your child to make theirs too. When you write to family and friends, encourage your child to add a piece to cards, letters and messages.

Explore.....

The various ways in which we write e.g. 'can you write some directions for me so that I can make a dinosaur like yours?'

Read and write...

Your own maps, posters and information brochures to show the different ways of writing.

Discuss.....

Various types of writing in the books you have at home e.g. "This book gives us information. This one is a funny story. Can you find the speech balloons in this book?"

Experiment.....

With the way written language works by reading and writing out familiar poems, songs, rhymes.

Praise...

All attempts at writing and spelling. Talk about what your child has written, have your child point to the writing and talk about the message it carries.

Demonstrate...

How you write by recording the message too. Explain what you are doing as you write e.g. 'I start my writing on this side of the page. I'm making gaps between the words. This is what I want to say'.

Let your child...

Observe what you do when you try to spell unknown words e.g. say it, write it down, try again, check it with a friend or in a dictionary / word book.

Ask...

Your child to read their work to other people, such as a friend or neighbour.

Look....

For your child's work in class books that are brought home to share.

Identify...

Letters and words around you. Play with letters of the alphabet, find letters and words in magazines that are of significance, e.g. 'that letter is in your name. That's the way you spell my name'.