

How Can I Help My Child At Home?

Writing

When children begin to write they enjoy making marks and scribbles on paper. Over time they start to write some of the letters and sounds of the alphabet. They learn to write words. Eventually they learn to write sentences and are able to create a variety of texts.

You can help to encourage your child's writing development at home in the following ways:

- make writing experiences at home fun for you and your child
- write in front of your child and discuss what you are writing, eg shopping lists, cards, letters and notes
- talk about the different purposes and audiences for writing
- encourage your child to draw and to write about their drawing
- praise your child for 'having a go' at writing words that are new to them
- encourage your child to write messages for you and other family members
- encourage your child to write cards, notes, invitations and letters to friends, relatives, neighbours, school teachers
- encourage your child to write signs, poems, favourite recipes and instructions
- encourage your child to label things that they design and make
- encourage your child to write at the computer
- discuss and display paintings, drawings and writing that your child brings home from school
- encourage your child to keep a scrap book or photo album for putting in pictures and writing
- encourage your child to keep a diary and to write in it whenever possible