

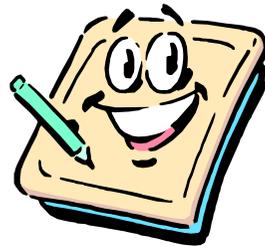
Reading for writing

Give your child lots of opportunities to read:

- stories and poems
 - information books
 - signs and notices
 - newspapers, magazines and comics
 - instructions (recipes, games etc)
 - teletext and internet
- Make use of your local library too!



Words are everywhere!

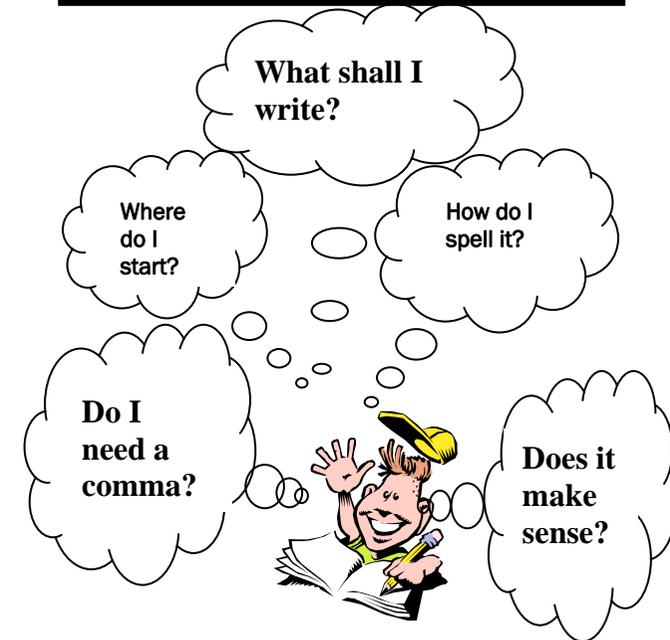


REMEMBER!

- Make it fun!
- Children should feel relaxed and ready!
- Speak to your child's teacher if you need further advice.

Children love to share their writing. Valuing your child's work will encourage them to become enthusiastic and confident writers.

How to help your child with their writing at Key Stage 2



When children write, there are lots of things to think about! It's not surprising that writing is a skill which takes years to develop. In the early stages of learning to write, children are only able to focus on some aspects. For example - a child concentrating on writing an exciting adventure story, may temporarily 'forget' handwriting or spelling. As they improve, the skills will become better integrated.

School name/logo

Writing in school today

We teach children to see writing as a means of communicating to real people for a real reason.

We teach the skills of writing in different ways.

Text work—making sense of what we read; demonstrating and practising writing

Sentence work — punctuation, grammar, connecting ideas

Word work—spelling, using words, hand writing

Children learn to write in a variety of ways. This begins with **reading**; before children can write in a particular style they must have experienced it in their reading.

Examples -

Plays	Explanations
Stories	Instructions
Poetry	Information

As developing writers, children will ...

- Write in different ways for different reasons
- Use what they read to give them ideas for their writing
- Begin to plan and improve writing
- Write sentences of varying length and complexity
- Experiment with language
- Develop punctuation and grammar
- Reread writing to check for sense

How you can support your child

Let your children see you and others as writers *e.g. shopping lists, notes etc.* A family message board is a good idea.

Try to provide a variety of equipment for writing *e.g. notebooks, post-its, paper of different size and colour, pens, pencils, chalk, crayons, dictionary and thesaurus, computer*

Encourage your child to write for a variety of real reason:

- postcards and greetings cards
- thank you letters/notes
- messages
- lists
- e-mail

A diary encourages your child to use writing to express feelings.

Children enjoy writing creatively. They may wish to write -

- stories
- poems
- posters
- descriptions

Talk to your child about their writing at school and discuss ideas with them.



