

Writing Tips for Helping at Home ...

For Kindergarten-First Grade

- Ask your child to draw a picture of a family activity and then write a sentence that describes the activity below the picture. Encourage your child to sound out each word as they write the sentence. Then have them read what they wrote.

For Kindergarten-Second Grade

- Say a sentence and have your child clap out the number of words (for example, clap five times after hearing the sentence, “The boy ran very fast,” and only four times after hearing “The boy ran fast”).

For Kindergarten-Fourth Grade

- Talk about any new words found in stories. Have your child use a new word in a sentence and write out the sentence. Post the best sentences on the refrigerator or on a bulletin board. Encourage your child to use new words in speech and writing.

For Kindergarten-Sixth Grade

- Provide supplies for writing, such as a chalkboard, chalk, markers, highlighters, a marker board, paper, pencils, and crayons.
- Have your child cut a picture from an old magazine and write a story about it.
- Begin a story and have your child say/write an ending for it.
- Have your child write letters and thank-you notes to friends and relatives.
- Keep a list of new words. Have your child add new words he/she learns by listening to others, or from newspapers, books, catalogs, and magazines. Discuss the meanings of the new words.
- Have your child write sentences using selected new words.