

# Top tips for supporting your child with writing!

Let children see you being a model writer! Let them see you writing notes, cards or letters to friends or relatives, a shopping list, an article for a magazine or maybe a story or poem for them to enjoy.



Play word-building games like Boggle or Scrabble.



Games like 'Guess Who' can also develop their descriptive vocabulary.

Read books to, and with them, that are at a higher level than their own reading to expose them to ambitious vocabulary and complex sentence structure.



Create silly sentences or tongue twisters using alliteration (a group of words that all begin with the same sound).

For example: Silly Sarah slipped on Sam's salmon sandwiches or Monty Mouse marched merrily to the magic mountain.

Cut out words from a newspaper or magazine.

Can they use the words to write a sentence?

Can they manipulate (change) the order of the sentence they created? Which do they prefer?



Ask your child what his/her next steps are from time to time and help them work specifically on these.



Encourage your child to rehearse their sentence out loud before they write it down.



Always encourage children to punctuate their sentences with a capital letter and full stop.



## Writing Ideas:

- Help your child write a letter to their favourite author.
- Let your child write their own Christmas cards, thank you letters, cards or e-mails to friends or relatives, invitations to a party, a list of things they need to take on holiday, or a record of football results.
- When you go on holiday, encourage children to write postcards to friends or relatives. They could record things that you do in a holiday diary which they can share with friends or relatives when they get home.
- After making a cake or doing a craft activity, challenge children to write the recipe or instructions for someone else to use.
- Write an information page or booklet about something they find interesting e.g. spiders, Dr Who, dinosaurs, cats, etc.

