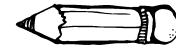


Writing Information for Parents



- There are 3 types of writing that we introduce in kindergarten and each has a unique purpose.
 - Informative writing conveys information and is based on facts.
 - Narrative writing tells a story about a personal experience.
 - Opinion writing conveys the writer's thoughts about a particular topic.
- Please see the attached writing rubric for specific details regarding our expectations.
- For the second quarter, we would like to see each type of writing include at least a topic sentence and 1 big idea.
- For the third and fourth quarter, we would ideally like to see each type of writing include a topic sentence, 2 big ideas possibly using transition words (first, next, last), possibly a few details about the big ideas, and a closing sentence (usually with a reaction).
- These are some other attributes of writing that help students communicate their ideas more effectively.
 - Picture and writing complement each other
 - Use transition words to sequence events
 - Spell phonetically
 - Use space between words
 - Write letters using correct form, appropriate size, and place letters on lines appropriately
 - Capitalize first letter of first word in a sentence and the pronoun 'I'
 - Use punctuation
 - Spell high frequency words/sight words correctly with help of the word wall



Tips for helping your child write

- Emphasize the importance of a solid letter-sound relationship. Your child should be able to identify and name letters, but should also be able to tell the sound(s) associated with each letter.
- Have your child verbalize their thoughts and make them into sentences prior to writing.
- Break sentences in words, then segment words into sounds, then write the sounds they said/heard.
- Practice segmenting and spelling simple consonant-vowel-consonant words (ex. cat, sit, fun).
- Practice retelling experiences using transitional words (ex. first, next, last).
- Catch letter reversals and show your child that a reversal can change how a word is read and possibly the meaning of a word (ex. if they want to write 'did', but write 'bib').
- Be sure to have your child read back what they wrote. It is an important step that will help them realize how important it is to use their knowledge of sounds when they write.
- Last but not least...WRITE, WRITE, WRITE! A daily journal is something I encourage. It can be another way for your child to tell you about their day. It can be one sentence for now and they can elaborate more later on when writing becomes a little more manageable.

Informative Writing

Writing that conveys information and is based on facts.

Structure:

- Topic sentence
- 2 facts about the topic
- Closing sentence (with prompting)

Example:

I learned about spiders. Spiders have 2 body parts. Spiders have 8 legs. I enjoyed learning about spiders.

Narrative Writing

Writing that tells a story about a personal experience.

Structure:

- Topic sentence
- 2-3 sequenced events
- Closing sentence with reaction

Example:

I went to Sea Life Park with my class. First we went to the touch pools. Next we fed the turtles. Last we saw the sea lion show. The field trip was so much fun!

Opinion Writing

Writing that conveys the author's thought about a particular topic.

Structure:

- Topic sentence
- State opinion
- 1-2 reasons to support the opinion (with prompting)
- Closing sentence (with prompting)

Example:

We read the book The Very Hungry Caterpillar. I like the book because the caterpillar turned into a beautiful butterfly. I liked the story.