



Supporting Very Young Writers

By: Reading Rockets @ readingrockets.org

Preschool aged children love to write – they're always in search of a marker or crayon. Those early scribbles are an important step on the path to literacy. Parents and preschool teachers can support a writer's efforts in some very simple ways. And it's never too early to start!

A child's writing typically goes through several stages, beginning with scribbling that probably won't include recognizable shapes or letters. From there, children tend to write using more letter-like shapes and later, your child may create a piece of writing that includes random strings of letters. Regardless of the stage, recognize that each effort of crayon to paper has value. Two ways to support your child's effort are through writing time and dictation.

Writing time

In school, writing time may be called Writer's Workshop. During this special time at home, provide time and fun materials for writing. This may include smelly markers, fat pencils and paper of all shapes and sizes. Encourage your child to draw and/or write, and then use this time to talk about what's been created. Early efforts will probably be readable only by your child, but let your child feel like the expert with that piece of writing. As your child gets older, you may find that the writing time starts to include more emphasis on letters and sounds. A child's name and simple words like Mom, Dad and love are often penned early. Regardless of what's been written, be proud of the work and display it for all to see.

January 2021

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Please check Brightwheel every day. There is important information there! Also, make sure your child always has a change of clothes and/or diapers/pull-ups, if necessary. Thank You!

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Caterpillars/Buttercup Butterflies



The babies will be learning about opposites and learning development feelings, meanwhile, the Buttercups are looking forward to the New Year. They will be meeting new friends, and learning new things like shapes and the senses. This year will be filled with fun and discovery. Happy New Year and Stay Safe!

-Ms. Natalie, Ms. Stacey, & Ms. Jessica

Pixie Butterflies

This will be a wonderful year full of learning and fun! We will continue learning our shapes this month. We are very excited to be back with the best energy. We hope you enjoyed your holiday and that you are off to a great New Year.

- Ms. Maria & Ms. Vanessa



Elf Butterflies



We finished our garden study last week where we talked about different plants and vegetables, as well as how we can help our community grow and stay safe. For the next few weeks we will be working through a study called "Roads and Road Signs" where we will be discussing what road signs are for, who helps make them and how we as a community can come together and keep everyone safe and to help us all grow in all that we do. We are already having talks about the different things we see on the way to school and how the different colored traffic lights keep us safe.

-Mr. Steven & Ms. Shay

Julia Butterflies

This month our class study is focused on gardening. We will talk about how to care for a garden and what grows in a garden we will also have the opportunity to plant seeds. We will also continue to work on our fine motor skills, recognition of letters and numbers and writing our name. Happy New Year!

-Ms. Paige & Ms. Vicky



2021

School Closed - January 1st
Ms. Ali's 16th Work Anniversary— January 3rd
Ms. Ali's Birthday— January 4th
Ms. Shay's 2nd Work Anniversary—January 17th
Meme's 2nd Work Anniversary - January 21st

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Dictation

Writing down what your child says is a simple but effective way to model many important aspects of written language. These dictation activities can take place after a family adventure, an exciting event, or a shared book experience. It can be as simple as writing down a favorite part of a movie or book or recording what was for dessert that night. Have your child sit next to you or watch you write. Your child's watching will help her become aware of many conventions of written language, including capitalization, spacing between words, and punctuation. Keep the dictated sentences short, and use your best handwriting! These dictated sentences may be among the very first things your young writer reads all by herself. When you're done writing, encourage your child to re-read the sentences along with you.

Regardless of topic, it's always fun to hear what your child thinks was the most interesting part of a book or the most exciting part of their day. Capturing it in writing will create a memory, and it will also help your child further down the path of literacy.



Paper Plate Noise Maker

A fun craft to make for New Year's or any other party!
Fun, colorful, and noisy!

Here's what you'll need:

- Paper plate
- Paint, markers or crayons
- Curled ribbon
- Dried beans, pasta or pony beads
- Tape
- Glue or Stapler



1. Have your child paint or color the back side of the paper plate.

2. Tape the curled ribbon to the plate that when folded in half, the ribbon will stick out.



3. Add a handful of beans, pasta or beads to the plate and fold in half.

4. Secure the plate closed with the glue or stapler. A hot glue gun can be used for this step but should be handled by a grown up.



Super Supper

Cheese or
Pepperoni
Pizza w/ Side
Salad
Pick-up is
Thursday,
January 14th
\$5.00 each.

Meatloaf w/
Mashed
Potatoes and
Green Beans
Pick-up is
Thursday,
January 28th
\$5.00 each.

**Payment is
due before
pick-up.**

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EXCELLENCE IN EARLY EDUCATION

Mission:

The Winter Park Day Nursery provides a secure, nurturing and educational environment that is affordable and supports family diversity.

Vision:

The Winter Park Day Nursery will build a stronger community by providing high-quality, affordable early childhood education that will prepare our children to succeed in school and life.

Winter Park Day Nursery is a 501 (c)(3) tax exempt organization.